Mole who gave tip on Sabaya gets ₱5-M reward

STORY BELOW, COLUMN 1

MALINIS NA TRABAHO 'TO!

Lawmaker raps bikini car wash

By C. Avendaño and N. Burgos Jr.

BIKINI-CLAD women sponging cars at a restaurant in Iloilo City are attracting male customers, but a female member of

LAWMAKER/A6

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WHAT'S INSIDE

- **Bush tells Palestinians to dump Arafat** WORLD / A11
- **New oil players cut pump prices by 30¢** NEWS / A2
- **Germany ousts Korea** SPORTS / A22

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ASIA PULSE SURVEY

19% of Pinoys want to leave, say RP hopeless

A MIAMI Air chartered jet lands at the Diosdado Macapagal International Airport in Pampanga with 63 Filipinos deported by the US immigration service. ERIK ARAZAS

FILIPINOS are voting with their feet. One out of five Filipinos sees no hope in the country and wants to migrate, a private polling firm disclosed yesterday.

Pulse Asia Inc. said 19 percent of Filipinos agreed with the statement, "This country is hopeless and if it were only possible I would migrate to another country and live there." Twenty percent were undecided while 60 percent disagreed with the statement.

According to the survey, a bigger percentage of the upper class (ABC) wanted to leave the country. Thirty-one percent said they wanted to migrate, apparently out of despair.

Twenty-six percent were undecided. This means 57 percent of the upper class cannot categorically say there is hope for the country.

Pulse Asia polled 1,200 people aged 18 and above nationwide from March 22 to April 10 this year. The survey has a margin of error of plus or minus 3 percent and a confidence level of 95 percent.

Residents of Metro Manila were also among those likely to leave. Twenty-six percent of Metro Manilans, the highest level among the regions, felt the country was hopeless.

Felipe Miranda, Pulse Asia director for research, said that in past surveys, only about 14 percent of respondents nationwide expressed hopelessness and wanted to leave.

Starting June 2001, however, pollsters began observing that 20 percent of Filipinos wanted to leave as they saw no hope in the country.

"After two Edsas (people power revolts) and four post-Marcos presidents, Filipinos are still hopeless," Pulse Asia said in a statement.

Close to 2,500 Filipinos leave the country every day to seek employment or to migrate elsewhere in the world, according to the Department of Labor and Employment.

In 2000, there were about 4.8 million Filipinos deployed overseas, according to a survey conducted by the Commission on Filipinos Overseas, an attached agency of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

19% OF PINOYS/A18

Sef weeps in court during bail hearing

SYDNEY—A 21-year-old Filipino immigrant accused of stabbing to death his father, mother and sister wept Tuesday as he made a brief appearance in a Sydney court.

Police brought Sef Gonzales in a white police van to the Hornsby Local Court in northern Sydney for a bail hearing.

Newsmen were prohibited from talking to the accused and cameras were not allowed inside the courthouse.

The boyish-looking Gonzales removed his thin wire-rimmed glasses to wipe away tears as he sat on the dock. His head was bowed as he listened to the judge.

His girlfriend and several of his friends watched the proceedings that lasted for less than 10 minutes.

His lawyer did not apply for bail and Gonzales was ordered to remain in custody at the Long Bay Remand Center until July 17 for a further pretrial hearing at Sydney's First Central Local Court.

Gonzales, a law student, has pleaded not guilty to murdering the three other members of his family in their home on July 10 last year.

The body of his father Teddy, 46, was found in the

SEF/A18

Sad homecoming for 63 Filipinos deported by US

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CLARK SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE—Handcuffed during their flight back to the Philippines, 63 Filipinos deported by the US government arrived here Tuesday afternoon. They walked again on their native land without shackles.

The deportees, including four women, landed at Clark's Diosdado Macapagal International Airport at 3:20 p.m. on board a Miami Air 737 Boeing chartered by the US Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) from El Sentro in California.

Some had relatives waiting for them at Clark since Monday, alerted by the Department of Social Welfare and Development of

SAD/A18

Mole who gave tip on Sabaya gets ₱5-M reward

By Dona Pazzibugan and Martin Marfil

A MOLE inside the Abu Sayyaf bandit group was the tipster who led the Armed Forces to bandit leader Abu Sabaya on Friday, the country's top general said yesterday.

AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Roy Cimatu identified the mole as Gardo Ibrahim—apparently the name is an alias—and presented him to President Macapagal-Arroyo in simple rites in Malacañang.

For the information he passed on to the Armed Forces, Ibrahim collected a P5-million reward.

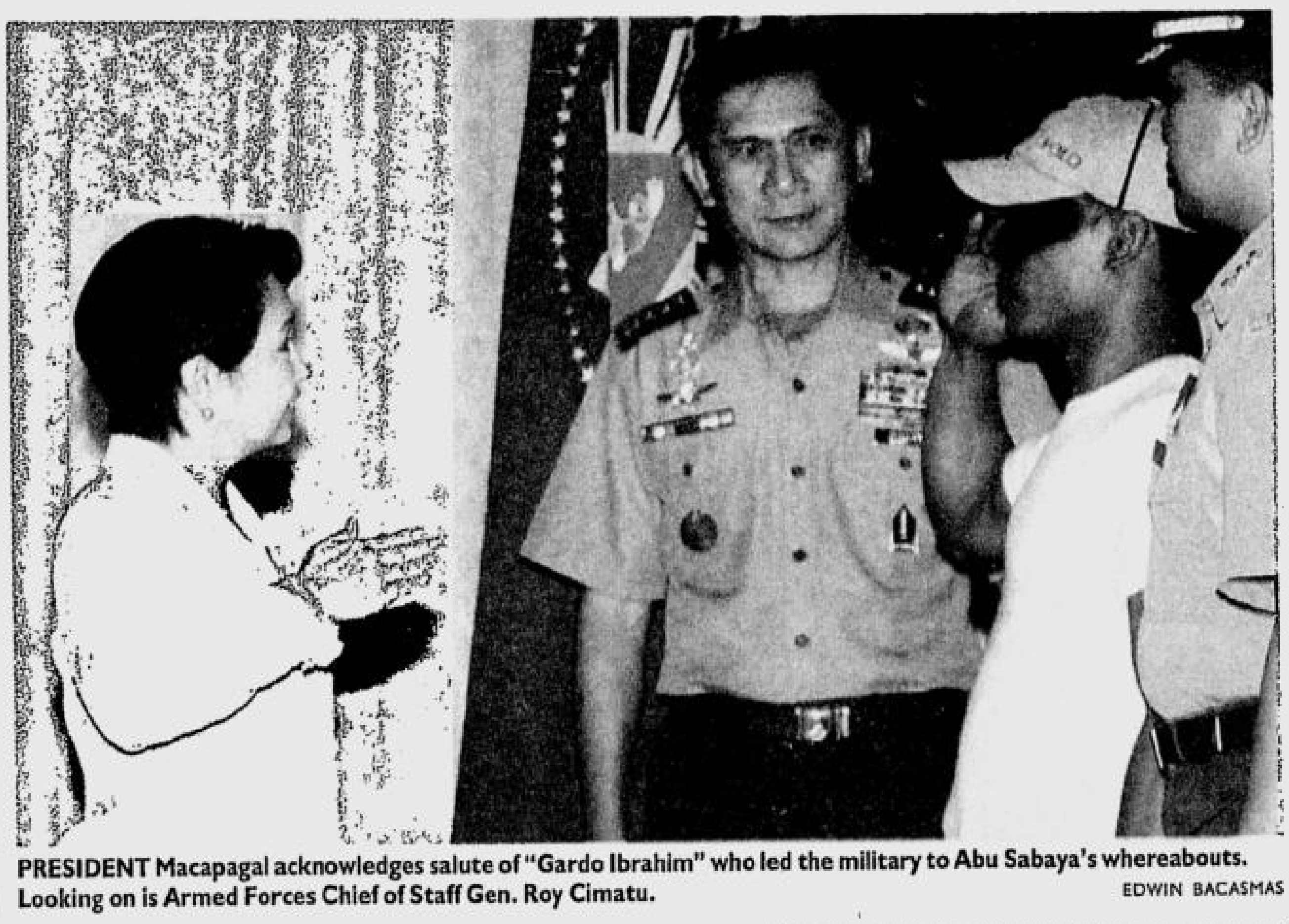
Ibrahim "was instrumental in giving timely information" that helped commandos intercept a motor boat carrying Sabaya and six other bandits off Sibuco town in Zamboanga del Norte, Cimatu said.

Cimatu also disclosed a secret: the pumpboat carried nine passengers, not seven, as military officials had originally announced.

"Madame President, there were actually nine people in the boat. Two were our informers and one of them is with us now," Cimatu said.

He did not identify the other informer, merely telling reporters after the rites: "We have additional projects to undertake and

MOLE/A18



PRESIDENT Macapagal acknowledges salute of "Gardo Ibrahim" who led the military to Abu Sabaya's whereabouts. Looking on is Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Roy Cimatu. EDWIN BACASMAS

US commander offers to help find abductors

By Julie S. Alipala, *PDI Mindanao Bureau* **and Norman Bordadora** *in Manila*

ZAMBOANGA CITY—Thanks, but no thanks.

The commander of American troops taking part in the Balikatan military exercises said yesterday the United States was willing to help Filipino soldiers find the abductors of three missing Indonesians, but the chief of the Southern Command politely declined the offer.

The abductors—pirates, according to the military—are believed to be hiding in Sulu, which is outside the Balikatan 02-1 areas of Zamboanga City and Basilan.

"In any way that I can help with the capabilities that we have within the terms of reference and visiting forces agreement, I would gladly extend without hesitation. I'll

US/A5

'GOOD TASTE' AND A BIG 'SLICE OF LIFE'

FERNANDEZ: Many will remember her as a fantastic teacher.

Doreen, 67: Teacher, writer, historian, friend

By Ruel S. de Vera

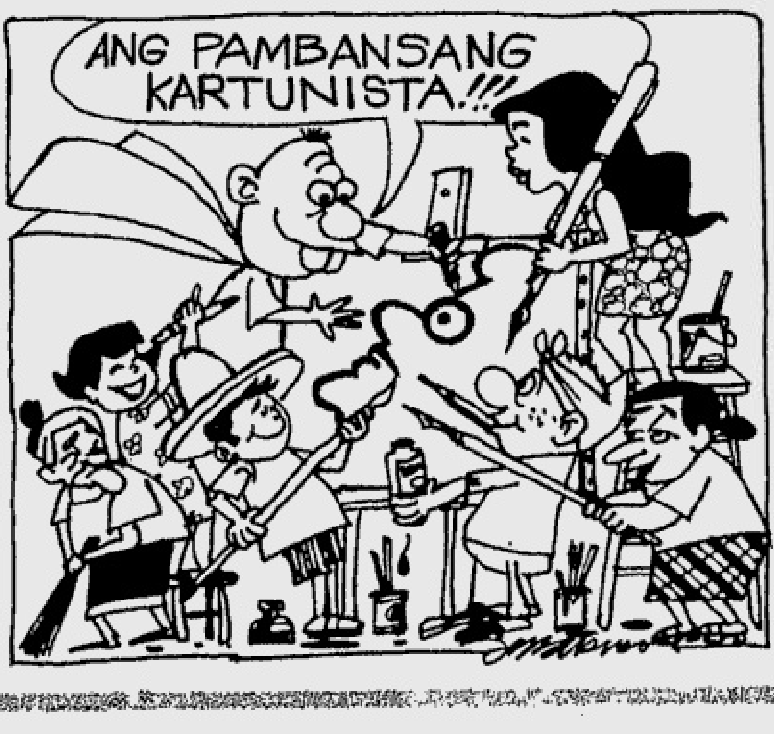
DOREEN Gamboa Fernandez, popular INQUIRER columnist and Philippine cultural treasure, died yesterday morning in the United States after a bout with pneumonia. She was 67.

Fernandez, who had a transplanted kidney and suffered from diabetes, was on vacation in the United States when she developed pneumonia and was admitted to the New York Presbyterian Hospital last week.

Fernandez writes the column "In Good Taste" for PDI's Lifestyle section on Thursdays. She was a much-awarded teacher, journalist, writer and historian specializing in literary, theater and culinary history.

Fernandez, who inspired and taught many of the country's writers, was a beloved figure to friends and

DOREEN/A6


ANG PAMBANSANG KARTUNISTA!!!

Alcala draws '30'

By Carla P. Gomez
PDI Visayas Bureau

ALCALA

BACOLOD CITY—Larry Alcala, known for his humorous and satirical cartoons that entertained three generations of Filipinos, died from a heart attack at his home at the Villa Valderama Subdivision here at 8 p.m. Monday.

He was 75.

A National Artist Award nominee last year, Alcala succumbed about four hours after returning home from a weeklong stay at the Riverside Medical Center.

ALCALA/A6

Second FRONT PAGE

HOY! GAYAHIN NYO NAMAN ITO!

New oil players cut prices

By Ronnel W. Domingo

NEW oil companies yesterday slashed the prices of gasoline and diesel products by 30 to 35 centavos per liter, partially reversing the effects of a succession of price increases that had started in the middle of January.

Seaoil Petroleum Corp. said it had cut the prices of its petroleum products by 30 centavos per liter from 2 p.m. yesterday.

The company's spokesperson, Yvonne Arenas, said the move was prompted by a fall in the price of imported refined petroleum products this month.

Lacking refining capacity, the new oil companies source most of their refined petroleum product needs from abroad unlike the "Big Three" oil refiners dominating the domestic petroleum industry.

Saying it was responding to market forces, Flying V followed with an announcement that it was reducing the prices of its own oil products by 35 centavos per liter as of 3 p.m. yesterday.

Meanwhile, the "Big Three" oil companies have given no indication whether they would be changing their own prices, at least within the week.

Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp. said it was maintaining price levels for the rest of the month.

Roberto Kanapi, Pilipinas Shell corporate affairs manager, said in a phone interview that the domestic refiner was looking at lowering its prices by 15 to 30 centavos in the first week of July.

"It is just a question of how much and when (to roll back prices)," Kanapi said.

Petron Corp. said it had no plans as yet of reducing its prices.

Officials of Caltex Phil. could not be reached for comment.

Another new player, TotalFinaElf Phil. said it was looking into a possible rollback but no details have been decided.

"We usually analyze pricing data at the end of a month," Total corporate affairs manager Rona Quejada explained.

Gloria vows to bring down power rates

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo has vowed to spend much of her time in the coming months to bringing down electricity rates after public anger over high power tariffs caused a serious slide in her popularity ratings.

Ms Macapagal said yesterday that while she had merely "inherited" the problems of the power sector, "I believe that pointing fingers is not productive."

"All mental energies should go to how to bring the power rates down, and (Energy Secretary) Vince Perez and I are working on a 10-point program to look for every way to bring power rates down," she said.

"This is where I am going to be putting my attention in the next several months," she said.

The President said in a speech that the Philippines now had the second most expensive electricity rates in the region after Japan.

"But in July, when the rates go down, we will move from No. 2 to No. 6. We will overtake Singapore, Brunei, Hong Kong, and I believe Cambodia in (lower) power rates," she said.

Ms Macapagal's public approval rating dived by nearly six percentage points from the previous quarter to 42.6 percent this month, the Social Weather Stations polling company said last week.

The SWS blamed the fall on "public dismay over increased electricity rates."

Last month, popular pressure forced the President to suspend collection of the controversial purchased power adjustment (PPA) from electricity consumers.

The state-run National Power Corp., however, needs the money to pay for supply contracts with independent power producers (IPP), which in the early 1990s helped remedy an acute energy crisis.

Officials have said the government would have to go in debt to cover the financing.

The President has ordered a review of the allegedly onerous IPP contracts, which date back to the previous Ramos administration.

A review committee composed of representatives from the energy, finance and justice committees is due to release the results of its investigation this week.

A petitioner meanwhile has warned of a "violent and bloody" revolution if the Supreme Court were to fail to immediately stop the collection of the PPA.

Lawyer Mar Torres Reyes said the SC should reconsider its decision to junk his petition asking the high court to stop the Manila Electric Co. from collecting the PPA charge.

Reyes, a leader of a lawyers' group claiming to represent "all electric consumers-customers" of Meralco, claimed that the PPA issue was one case with "primordial, paramount and transcendental importance."

He said the high court should treat it as a special case exempted from the technicalities of the law.

On May 28, the SC dismissed Reyes' petition, saying he had failed to first seek relief from other administrative bodies such as the Energy Regulatory Commission, which regulates the power sector.

Reyes disagreed, citing 21 exceptions to the doctrine of administrative remedies.

He said the financial burden imposed by the PPA has created social unrest "that is almost about to explode into a violent and bloody revolution." ***AFP with a report from Michael Lim Ubac and Dona Pazzibugan***

Nida witness wants money, says Harriet

By Michael Lim Ubac

THE LAWYER of slain actress Nida Blanca's daughter, Katherine "Kaye" Torres, said a witness of the National Bureau of Investigation has been trying to extort money from her client.

Lawyer Harriet Demetriou handed yesterday to Justice Secretary Hernando Perez a copy of a letter she sent to National Bureau of Investigation Director Reynaldo Wycoco on June 21.

Demetriou had complained to Wycoco that a certain "Omar" has been phoning Torres since he was introduced to her on June 11.

"Lately, and during our meeting on June 11 at your office, you advised me and my client that a certain Omar had been brought under NBI custody as a potential witness who could give us relevant information regarding the murder of Ms Nida Blanca," Demetriou said.

"Much to our dismay, this Omar has been incessantly calling my client's residence and demanding monetary assistance in exchange for supposed valuable information," the lawyer said.

Demetriou also asked Wycoco to explain recent reports indicating the possible involvement of Blanca in transactions involving deposed President Joseph Estrada and the controversial Jose Velarde account at Equitable-PCIBank.

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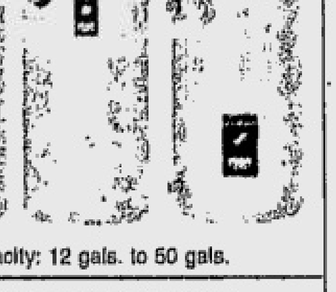

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Marcos financier ordered to testify

HONOLULU—A Swiss financier reported to have managed the assets of Ferdinand Marcos has been ordered to give a deposition to attorneys trying to enforce a $3.1 billion judgment against the late Philippine president.

The deposition of Jean-Louis Sunier was ordered for Saturday in Munich, Germany.

The order, filed Thursday in US District Court in Hawaii by visiting US District Judge Manuel Real, also calls for sanctions of up to $10,000 per day if Sunier continues to dodge attorneys.

An attorney for Sunier did not return telephone messages seeking comment Monday.

Sunier has refused to testify, insisting that under international law attorneys cannot compel him to testify outside his home country. He also argues that he is bound by "professional secrecy" from disclosing information about bank accounts. **AP**

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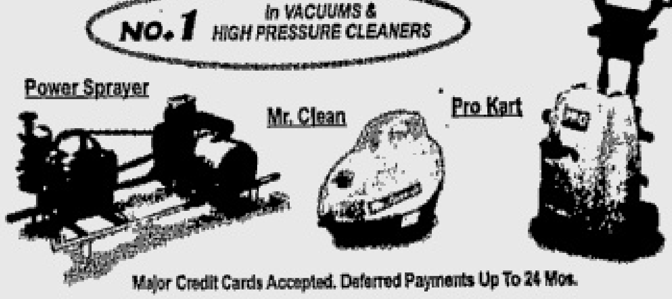

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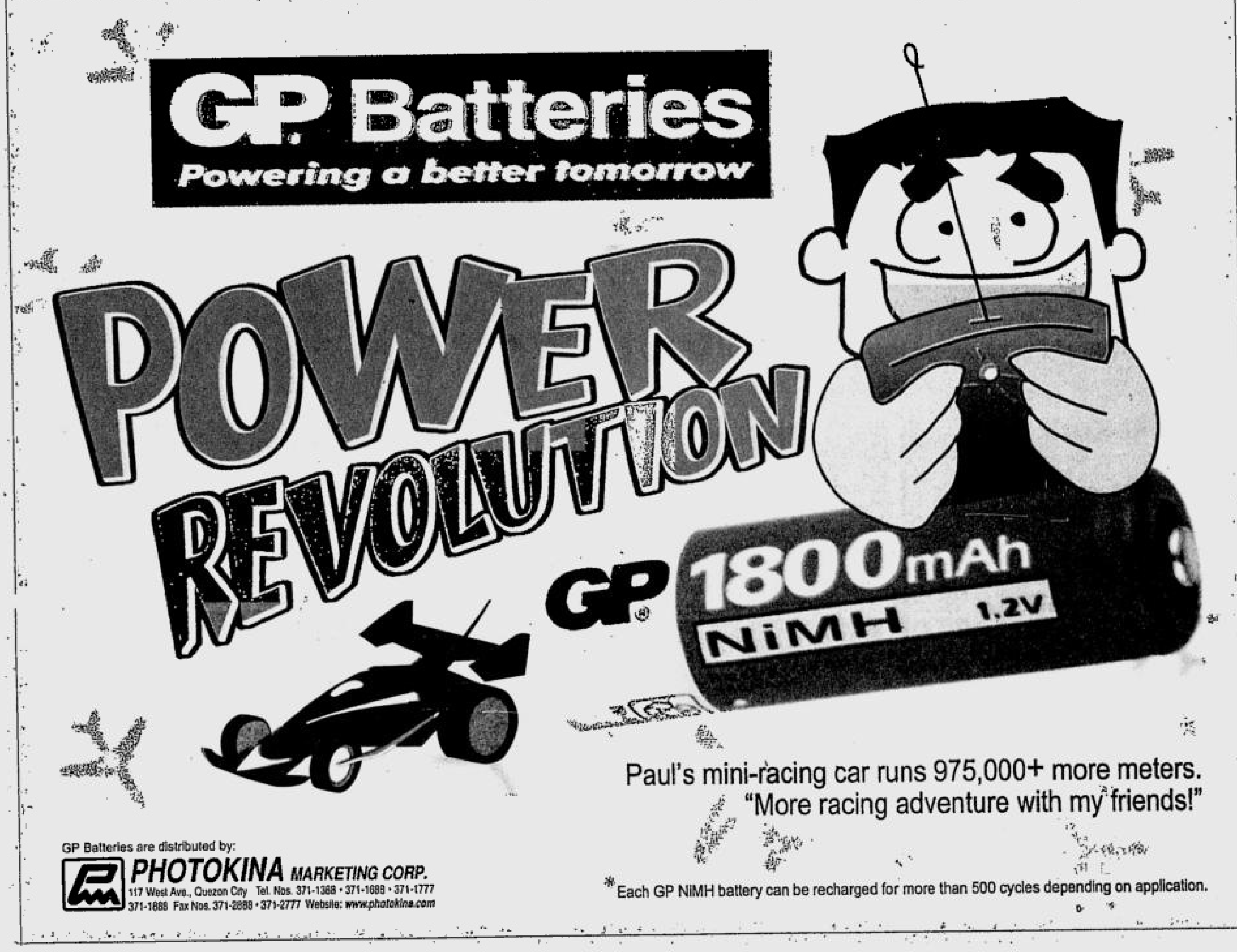

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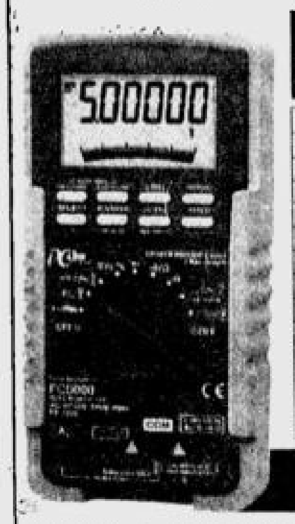

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Case closed, says top Sabaya hunter

By Carlito Pablo

A SEASONED military intelligence officer who took part in coup attempts against the Aquino administration was the "brains" behind the tracking project that led to the end of Abu Sayyaf spokesperson Abu Sabaya.

Marine Col. Juancho Sabban conceived of "Case Operation Plan Black Archer," which was launched in October last year and culminated in the shooting of a man strongly believed to be Sabaya on Sibuco Bay, Zamboanga del Norte on June 21.

"It's case closed," said the soft-spoken Sabban, a member of Philippine Military Academy Class '78, which counts no less than President Macapagal-Arroyo as an adopted "mistah."

"There is no doubt in our minds we finally got Sabaya," Sabban said in an interview. "I do not doubt the skills of my men who engaged the Abu Sayyaf from a distance of less than five meters."

Sabban, currently deputy chief of Marine Forces South, the mother unit of all Marine contingents in Mindanao, has had a colorful military career.

As a young Marine first lieutenant, Sabban earned a spot promotion to captain in 1982 when he and his men overran a heavily fortified Moro National Liberation Front camp in Palawan.

He was later deployed to the internationally contested Spratly Islands with the 3rd Marine Battalion.

Sabban was the first Marine commander to see action against the Abu Sayyaf in their stronghold, Camp Al Madina, in Basilan in 1993.

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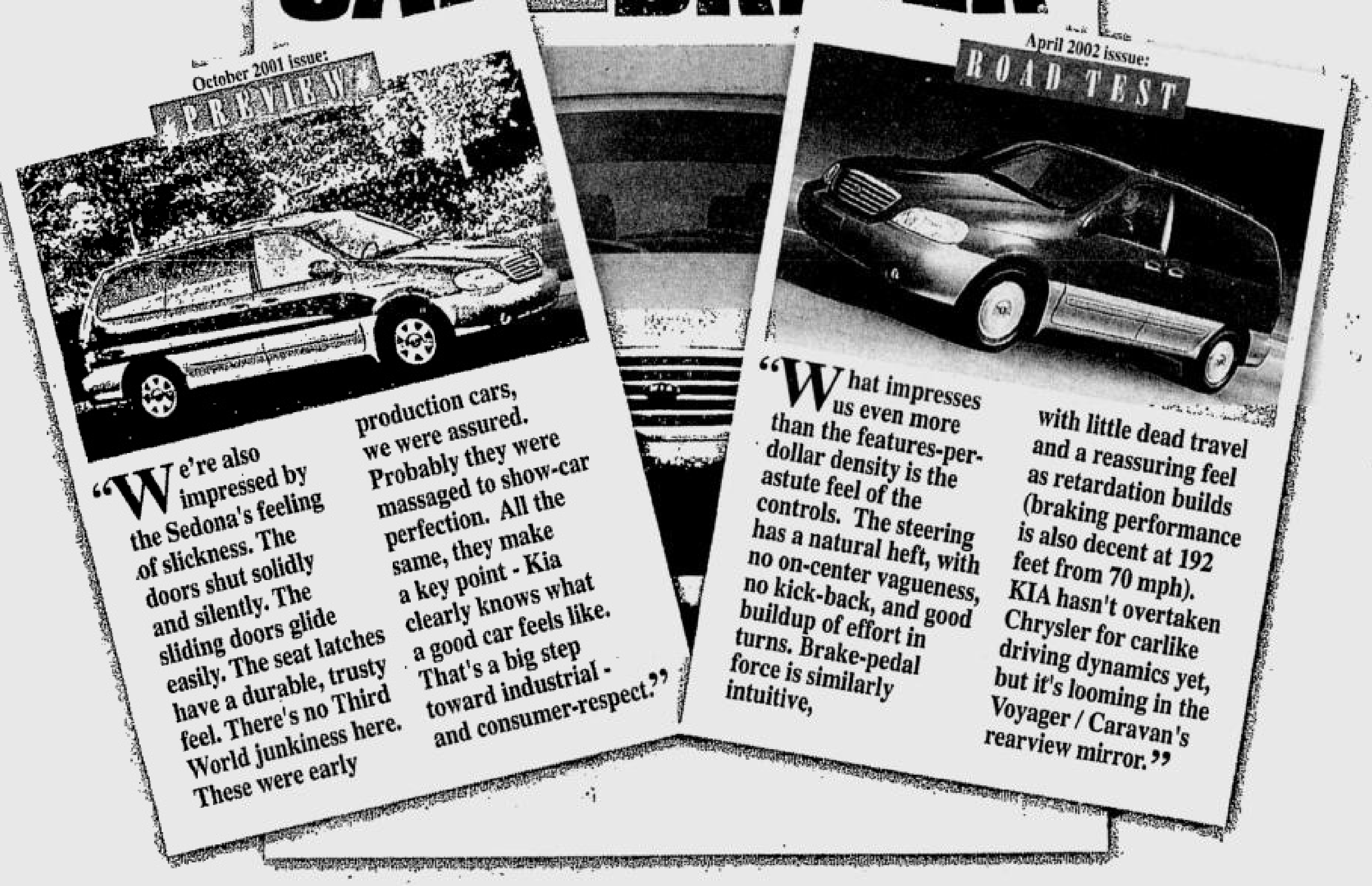

October 2001 issue: PREVIEW

"We're also impressed by the Sedona's feeling of slickness. The doors shut solidly and silently. The sliding doors glide easily. The seat latches have a durable, trusty feel. There's no Third World junkiness here. These were early production cars, we were assured. Probably they were massaged to show-car perfection. All the same, they make a key point - Kia clearly knows what a good car feels like. That's a big step toward industrial - and consumer-respect."

April 2002 issue: ROAD TEST

"What impresses us even more than the features-per-dollar density is the astute feel of the controls. The steering has a natural heft, with no on-center vagueness, no kick-back, and good buildup of effort in turns. Brake-pedal force is similarly intuitive, with little dead travel and a reassuring feel as retardation builds (braking performance is also decent at 192 feet from 70 mph). KIA hasn't overtaken Chrysler for carlike driving dynamics yet, but it's looming in the Voyager / Caravan's rearview mirror."

CAR and DRIVER featured the KIA SEDONA in two issues, and found it impressive. It's not surprising, because KIA designed and built the SEDONA to provide lasting value, backing it up with the longest product warranty* as proof of its confidence in build quality and performance.

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Ford Econoline	★★★★	★★★★	not tested	not tested
Chrysler Town/Country	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★
Dodge Caravan	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★★

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NEWSBRIEFS

GMA raps commanders

POLICE officials should take the blame for the blunders of their men, President Macapagal-Arroyo said yesterday.

"The new ethic is there is no room for error. (Policemen) who commit blunders will have to go," she said. "Each time a unit repeats the blunder, the command responsibility goes higher."

On Saturday, the President said she was dissatisfied with the PNP leadership's decision to subject to "re-training" the Pasay City policemen who botched a recent hostage situation.

She said the policemen including their chief, Supt. Eduardo de la Cerna, should have been dismissed immediately and charged with the death of 4-year-old hostage Dexter Balala. *Dona Z. Pazzibugan*

Justice joins escape probe

THE JUSTICE department has joined the probe to determine the complicity of Philippine National Police top brass in the June 19 escape of Pentagon gang leader Faisal Marohombsar and two others.

Justice Secretary Hernando Perez said yesterday he has ordered the National Bureau of Investigation to step into the case and submit its findings in one week.

Asked if incoming PNP chief Hermogenes Ebdane could be held liable for the escape, since he heads the National Anti-Kidnapping Task Force (Naktaf) which had custody of the suspects, Perez said: "We will go as high as possible."

On Monday, Ombudsman Aniano Desierto placed the entire police top brass under investigation for alleged complicity in the escape. *Michael Lim Ubac*

Warning vs fake newsmen

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—Lubao town Mayor Dennis Pineda has warned other officials about three men posing as INQUIRER correspondents who came to his office asking for transportation money.

Pineda identified the men as Ven Avila, Salvi Asis and Ping Mendiola. The mayor said the three had a solicitation letter stating: "We are from the INQUIRER."

When pressed to show their ID cards, Pineda said the three showed cards of the "Cargo Inquirer."

The INQUIRER learned the three men had also approached other mayors in the province. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

Flashflood kills 6

PAGADIAN CITY—Six persons were killed while 13 others were missing after the Baluran River was struck by a flashflood as more than 100 persons celebrated the feast of St. John the Baptist in Imelda town, Zamboanga Sibugay Monday afternoon.

Supt. Arnulfo Perez, provincial police chief, said most of the victims were government employees and their families.

Perez said town Mayor Juanito Gonzales was also hurt when rising waters suddenly surged after a brief drizzle.

Killed were municipal agrarian officer Cornelia Lagutin, Aurelia Abayata, Tony Bato, barangay kagawad Emedio Baluran, Adelaida Elrin and Tony Sarabia. *Hernan P. de la Cruz, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

'Exact change only, please'

SEN. Manny Villar sought yesterday to stop the practice of business establishments short-changing their customers.

Villar filed a bill requiring retailers to give customers their exact change at all times.

The change usually involves small amounts, but which when added up at the end of the day, amount to thousands of pesos, Villar said.

The bill would also prohibit the giving of change in any form other than money, like candy. *Cynthia D. Balana*

Ex-AMA exec posts bail

A FORMER executive of the AMA group of Companies has posted bail after he was arrested over the weekend for two counts of attempted homicide filed against him by a court sheriff and policemen last month.

Manuel Abad, former executive vice president of the AMA group, was nabbed at a restaurant in Sta. Lucia Mall in Marikina City around 11:30 a.m.

Central Police District (CPD) authorities led by PO3 Rogelio Espedes, who served the arrest warrant issued by Quezon City Municipal Trial Court (QC-MTC) Judge Ralph Lee, brought Abad to Camp Karingal in Quezon City. He was later released on bail on Monday.

Abad is facing two counts of homicide filed by Muntinlupa City sheriff Benito Cusi and two Quezon City policemen. They allege that he ordered his guards to shoot at the lawmen who were then trying to serve a writ of attachment at his hospice in relation to a civil case filed by the AMA Group. AMA sued him and his wife for allegedly putting up a rival business while he was still holding the second top position in AMA.

US commander offers to help find abductors

From page A1

WURSTER

help them," Brig. Gen. Donald Wurster told reporters here.

Wurster said he only needed approval from the US and Philippine governments.

But Southcom chief Maj. Gen. Ernesto Carolina said American help wasn't necessary because Filipino soldiers can do the job.

"We don't need any help from the American forces regarding the hostages, because we are very much on track. We are only waiting for breakthroughs," Carolina said.

He said if there were something that would require the help of the Americans, it would be the manhunt against the Abu Sayyaf and its leader Khadaffy Janjalani.

Maj. Cynthia Teramae, spokesperson of the US-RP Combined Information Bureau, clarified that American support would be limited only to technical assistance, including intelligence gathering.

Not Abu

Carolina said the military was now certain the abductors were not Abu Sayyaf. "Sorry to disappoint you, folks. It's not the Abu Sayyaf Group or Hamsiraji Sali, who were behind the abduction of the three Indonesians. But I cannot tell you who they are," he said.

Local Sulu leaders negotiating for the release of the Indonesians, who were kidnapped on June 17, confirmed that the abductors had no connection with the bandit group.

Carolina said broadcast journalist Arlyn dela Cruz could help the military identify the leaders of the group.

"Maybe we should ask Arlyn dela Cruz, because we heard that one of the commanders might have been involved in her abduction," he said.

In Davao City, the Indonesian consulate cited the AFP's efforts to recover the three kidnapped Indonesian seamen but said that they had yet to receive an official report from the military regarding the identity of the crewmen's captors.

Vice Consul Johannes Meningsela told the INQUIRER that the reports they have so far received are those coming from the media. "Right now, we have yet to receive official information on who kidnapped the three Indonesians," Meningsela said.

Lt. Col. Danilo Servando, chief of the AFP's public information office, said on Monday that the three Indonesians were in the custody of a group of notorious pirates in Sulu.

"Right now, our main concern is the safety of our nationals. We hope that this problem would be solved soon," Meningsela said.

"We have people in Zamboanga and we are sure that the Philippine government and the security authorities in the Southern Command are serious in their efforts to recover our countrymen," the vice consul said.

Poised to strike

In Camp Aguinaldo, AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Roy Cimatu said the military was poised to strike if negotiations with the pirates fall through.

"That is an option," Cimatu said yesterday. If the talks fail, "our forces are under instructions to conduct operations against this group."

The pirate group is believed led by a certain Commander Walub, a known pirate based in Lahing-Lahing, Luuk, Sulu.

The group of Walub is believed to be hiding in the hinterlands of Lahing Lahing with their captives.

On June 17, 11 fully armed men on board three speedboats intercepted an Indonesian tugboat pulling a barge loaded with coal near Basilan.

Four Indonesian crewmen, Capt. Muntu Jacobus Winowatan, Chief Officer Julkipli, Second Officer Ferdinand Joel and chief engineer Pieter Lernch, were taken by the pirates.

Joel was able to escape on June 19 in Sulu and pointed to a photograph of Abu Sayyaf leader Hamsiraji Sali as one of his abductors.

Cimatu said yesterday that Walub looked like Sali.

He added that the pirates had not made any demands for the release of the Indonesians.

Bandit group

The military commander of Jolo island, Col. Romeo Tolentino, said the kidnappers were a 20-member bandit group and were believed to be holding the three Indonesians near Luuk town on Jolo, he said.

Tolentino said the pirates were "small-time opportunists who wanted to have a share of whatever money they could get from the kidnapping."

The authorities previously said they suspected the kidnappers were Abu Sayyaf Muslim guerrillas, who held hostage for more than a year two US Christian missionaries and a Filipino nurse in the south.

Tolentino said the kidnappers have not issued a ransom demand for the three, who are Muslims.

"Right now, they are confused because even the Abu Sayyaf would not take custody of the hostages who are all Muslim—this is "haram," or forbidden, in Islam," he told reporters.

"It is just a matter of time before we can rescue them," Tolentino said. "Town officials and villagers . . . are also helping the military search for the three hostages."

Meanwhile, Carolina confirmed that some of the negotiators were facing problems in dealing with the captors.

But he said this did not mean that the negotiators were squabbling.

They're not fighting, but you know that is the dynamics of the situation. The political leaders who are negotiating have to agree with each other because in the first place, they don't belong to the same group. They are not necessarily on the same side of the fence," Carolina said. ***With reports from Martin Marfil; AFP***

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Doreen, 67: Teacher, writer, historian, friend

From page A1

students.

INQUIRER founding publisher Eugenia Duran-Apostol remembers Fernandez as "my best friend bar none. Many people will remember her best as a fantastic teacher. She taught people how to appreciate culture through her writing."

"What made her exemplary as a critic of culinary arts was her interest in looking for the Filipino, which was her main preoccupation as a critic in general and as an educator," said Virgilio Almario, director of the University of the Philippines Creative Writing Center.

"She was a very good educator. She influenced a lot of students. She was a very good mentor," he said.

Fernandez was born on Oct. 28, 1934 to Aguinaldo Gamboa and Alicia Lucero in Manila. She grew up in Silay, Negros Occidental. She graduated from St. Scholastica's College in 1954 with a bachelor's degree in English and went on to earn her master's and doctorate from the Ateneo de Manila University.

She taught full-time at the Ateneo de Manila and chaired three different departments: Communication, English and Interdisciplinary Studies.

She married interior designer Wili Fernandez in 1958. It was with her husband that she began writing the food columns she became known for. They began writing their column in 1969, but she would soon do it on her own and attract a considerable following.

She began writing "In Good Taste" for the INQUIRER in June 1986.

Her husband passed away in April 1998.

Fernandez had received the Metrobank Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award, the Ateneo de Manila's Irwin Memorial Teacher Award and the Cultural Center of the Philippines Centennial Honors for the Arts.

She served on the boards of many institutions such as the Foundation for Worldwide People Power, Philippine Educational Theater Association (Peta), CCP and the Ramon Magsaysay Foundation. She also served as a judge in the Don Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature several times.

Among her many books were "The Iloilo Zarzuela: 1903-1930," "Tikim: Essays on Philippine Food and Culture," "In Performance," "Face to Face: The Craft of Interviewing," "Palabas: Essays on Philippine Theater" and "Fruits of the Philippines."

She also co-authored several books with Edilberto Alegre, among them "The Writer and his Milieu," "Writers and Their Milieu," "Sarap: Essays on Philippine Food;" "Kinilaw: A Philippine Cuisine of Freshness," and the restaurant guide "Lasa."

She wrote scripts for video documentaries and had translated several plays.

She also lectured widely locally and abroad on Philippine food and culture, and became one of the foremost authorities on local food and theater.

Throughout it all, however, she always considered herself a teacher first and foremost.

In a previous interview for the literary journal Pen & Ink, Fernandez explained: "I think I'm basically a teacher. Basically, completely, and thoroughly, a teacher. The other things feed into it or are born of it."

A novena will be held for her beginning today after the 6 p.m. Mass at the Sanctuario de San Antonio in Forbes Park, Makati City. Interment plans have yet to be announced.

Alcala draws '30'

From page A1

He had been suffering from severe difficulty in breathing that was complicated by diabetes, his son Lauro said.

Alcala died in the presence of his wife Guadalupe, 69; sons Lauro, 45, and Lamberto, 43; daughter Dr. Lizette Alcala Guanzon, 40; and son-in-law Dr. Jose Vicente Guanzon.

Guadalupe said her husband had requested that he be brought home because he could not sleep in the hospital.

According to his website, Alcala made over 500 characters, 20 comic strips, six movies, two murals and 15,000 published pages in more than 50 years of cartooning.

Through Mang Ambo, Kalabog en Bosyo, Asyong Aksaya, Siopawman and many others, he entertained readers while injecting social commentary.

His favorite was Asyong Aksaya, the detestable, wasteful character spawned by the oil crisis of the late '60s and whom he once said in an interview "we can all see ourselves, especially that part of us we don't want to acknowledge."

His most popular regular piece was "Slice of Life," where he challenged readers to spot a caricature of himself within the cartoon that depicted situations in the lives of typical Filipino families.

From his home here, he drew the cartoon weekly for the Philippine Star and the Sunday Times Magazine until his death, along with the daily comic strip, "Siopawman."

He also continued to draw daily and weekly strips that included the trio of "Bim, Bam, Bung" for Funny Komiks and "Lolo Brigido" for the Pambata magazine.

His long-running humor cartoon "Kalabog en Bosyo" can still be read in the Manila Times.

The artist had been sending his cartoons to the publishing offices in Manila by fax or e-mail.

Numerous awards

Alcala received numerous awards and citations here and abroad for his cartoons. Among them were the Araw ng Maynila Award in 1994, Pamana Award for Cartooning in 1991, Catholic Press Award for Best in Humor in 1998, the MOPC-SPIC Excellence in Cartooning, and the UP Alumni Association Professional Award in Fine Arts.

Founder of the Samahan ng Kartunista ng Pilipinas, Alcala worked to give Filipino cartoonists wider exposure, observing that local comics often took a backseat to syndicated and cheaper foreign strips.

Born in Daraga, Albay, on Aug. 18, 1926, Alcala had a degree in Fine Arts from the University of the Philippines. He served as chair of the Visual Arts Department of the UP College of Fine Arts until he retired in mid-1995.

As UP professor, Alcala introduced the degree course in commercial design and the 8-mm film production of animated cartoons.

Negros life

A resident of Teachers' Village, Quezon City for more than 30 years, Alcala moved to Bacolod in 1996. He had long wanted to live in Negros because his brother, Vic, a businessman, lived in the province, according to his son Lauro.

The couple built their dream retirement home in Villa Valderama. Alcala had told visitors that it was their dream home because it had the big functional kitchen that his wife wanted. In place of what normally is the living room is his studio and a place to entertain visitors.

Alcala, in an interview with a local daily last year, said he and his wife had dreamed of building a one-story home that was functional, especially for their old age.

He also said he chose to live in Negros because the air was fresher, the food was good, and there were no traffic problems like Manila had.

Dr. Vic Guanzon said that in the short time that his father-in-law had lived in Negros, he had made a lot of friends. He said they were overwhelmed by the number of people who condoled with the family.

Yesterday afternoon, Alcala's remains were flown to Manila. His body lies at the UP Chapel in Diliman, Quezon City. He will be buried at the Loyola Memorial Park in Parañaque City, but the date has yet to be set.

Lawmaker raps . . .

From page A1

the House of Representatives is not amused.

If she had her way, Bayan Muna Rep. Liza Maza would put a stop to the gimmick of the Bikini Car Wash at the Marina Restaurant on Ninoy Aquino Avenue in the city.

"We should not allow this kind of business to proliferate as these operators are exploiting women," Maza said in a phone interview.

She said another car wash business using scantily clad women was operating in Alabang, Muntinlupa.

Maza said these car operators were "exploiting women by making them sell not only their skills and service but their skin as well."

"This bikini gimmick endangers our women and make them more vulnerable to harassment, abuse and even prostitution," she said in a statement.

Maza, a member of the militant group Gabriela, said she was not blaming the women who, according to her, accepted this kind of job because of the economic slowdown.

The legislator said her office was investigating how many of these car wash businesses were resorting to this "gimmick."

She said she planned to see the mayors of Iloilo and Muntinlupa to ask them to revoke the licenses of the establishments.

Maza said she also planned to file a House resolution seeking an investigation of the matter.

Late teens

In Iloilo City, the women, mostly in their late teens and dressed in colorful two-pieces, would sponge from seven to 12 cars usually driven and owned by males from 3 to 6 p.m. every day.

The "special service" cost more than the regular car wash, which is done at the same restaurant by male personnel. Unlike their female counterparts, the male car washers are fully clothed.

A regular car wash cost P35 and a bikini car wash, P100. For pickups and sports utility vehicles, the charge is P65 for regular service and from P150 to P200 for bikini car wash.

The bikini car wash is popular in the United States especially during summer, according to Ross Paul Gorriceta, owner of the Marina Restaurant. The concept had also been used in fund-raising affairs in Manila.

"The car wash was an added service to diners of the restaurant and we designed it as a one-stop car care center," Gorriceta said in a telephone interview with the INQUIRER.

Gorriceta said the bikini-clad girls were "a marketing gimmick to attract customers," noting that the city has many gas stations and several other restaurants offering car wash.

"It's something new and the guys can be entertained while having their cars washed," he said.

Despite its unique if not controversial packaging, the business started slow since it kicked off on June 1.

From an initial staff of three males and five females, those in bikinis are down to three, sometimes two.

But Gorriceta said the business was starting to pick up. "We may have to add more girls to accommodate more customers."

Angela and Girlie, who both said they were 18 years old, said they were "enjoying" their work.

High school graduates

The women, who are high school graduates, had joined bikini contests before they were hired in the car wash.

They are paid daily P400 each for a three-hour work. "We want to finish college but we don't have money," the girls said, adding that they are also supporting their families.

Despite the sexy tag, the girls said they were not ashamed of their work because they were not doing anything wrong. "Car wash *lang talaga*," Angela said.

They admitted that customers, mostly males, would flirt with them or invite them out. "We just tell them politely that we're not 'that' kind of girls," Angela said.

But the women's group Gabriela says it's not "just car wash."

"Using the girls' looks and bodies and exploiting their poverty are cheap gimmicks that show that the restaurant owners respect sports cars more than women," said Lucy Francisco, spokesperson of Gabriela-Panay.

Francisco said the car wash reinforced the centuries-old portrayal of women as sex objects and "accessories of men, just like the shiny and chic cars."

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BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Ramos puts in good word for Mendoza as DOTC chief

By Norman Bordadora

AMID the outcry against the appointment, a former military man has put in a good word for another military man (albeit police) about to join civilian government as a ranking official.

Former President and Armed Forces chief of staff Fidel V. Ramos said yesterday outgoing police Director General Leandro Mendoza was qualified to head the Department of Transportation and Communication because of his experience as a military man and police officer.

Ramos said Mendoza's management of the Philippine National Police and units in the defunct Philippine Constabulary qualifies him for the new post.

"Remember the PNP has air, sea and land capabilities. Managing the national police does not make one less capable of becoming transportation secretary," Ramos said at a news conference at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport before departing for Hong Kong.

As an elder statesman, Ramos regularly goes on foreign trips to sell the Philippines as an investor haven in Asia.

"General Mendoza was not PNP chief during my time (as President) but he was already a ranking officer. From my assessment, I would say he was an able manager," Ramos said, adding ``Mendoza's style gets things done."

Ramos said appointing an ex-military man to the DOTC did not hurt his administration. He named the late Arturo Enrile, former Armed Forces chief of staff, to head the DOTC after the general's retirement from the military.

"Secretary Enrile proved to be a team player in the Cabinet. Although he didn't remain long enough because he unfortunately died, I have no doubt that he would have done more," Ramos said.

In press statement yesterday, Mendoza declared that the DOTC would refocus its priorities to the modernization of sea and land transportation in the Philippines under his stewardship.

Mendoza announced the policy direction after getting briefed by his staff and captains of industry on the challenges he is facing before he formally assumes his post.

It was a radical departure from the policy of his predecessor, resigned Secretary Pantaleon Alvarez, who got mired in controversies on the modernization of the international airport in Manila.

Mendoza met Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) and Philexport president Sergio Ortiz-Luis Jr., Employers Confederation of the Philippines (Ecop) head Donald Dee, and Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FFCCCI) in a private meeting recently.

"The transportation secretary's energies need not be sapped by controversy. DOTC has to move fast to pave the way for seaports to be modernized, modern shipping lines get encouraged to ply the archipelago and a rapid land transport system is put in place," Mendoza said in the first policy statement he issued to media.

These, he added, must be done in support of President Macapagal-Arroyo's pledge to modernize agriculture and develop tourism across the country.

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Breakdown

EDITORIAL

HEAVY traffic on Edsa is no longer news. But motorists and commuters certainly can't help but fume, grumble and curse when traffic hardly moves at the unholy hours of 12 noon to 2 in the afternoon.

This period is supposed to be the window that opens to a less stressful drive on the busiest street of Metropolitan Manila. But not on Friday last week or Monday this week. On Friday, it took 35 minutes to get from SM City on North Avenue to Cubao in Quezon City. On Monday it was even worse: it took all of 45 minutes to cover the same distance, which is about 3 kilometers long. So the usual 30-minute drive from North Avenue to Gil Puyat Avenue in Makati stretched to one hour on Friday and an hour and a half on Monday. Not since the Metro Rail Transit was being built more than three years ago had traffic been so bad on an otherwise fine day.

What happened? Of course, workers have been digging up Edsa near the newly opened Quezon Avenue to lay down some drainage pipes. But if that's the only bottleneck, then the traffic should have moved smoothly once motorists got on the flyover.

Was it then the shootout last Monday between traffic policemen and a gang of robbers which left one policeman dead? But it happened before 10 a.m., so why should traffic remain snarled three or four hours later? Besides, while the traffic moved at a snail's pace up to Cubao, it eased somewhat near Camp Crame and then moved at a turtle's pace after the Shaw underpass where the shootout happened. And last Friday, there was no shootout, although there was a car stalled on the Santolan flyover.

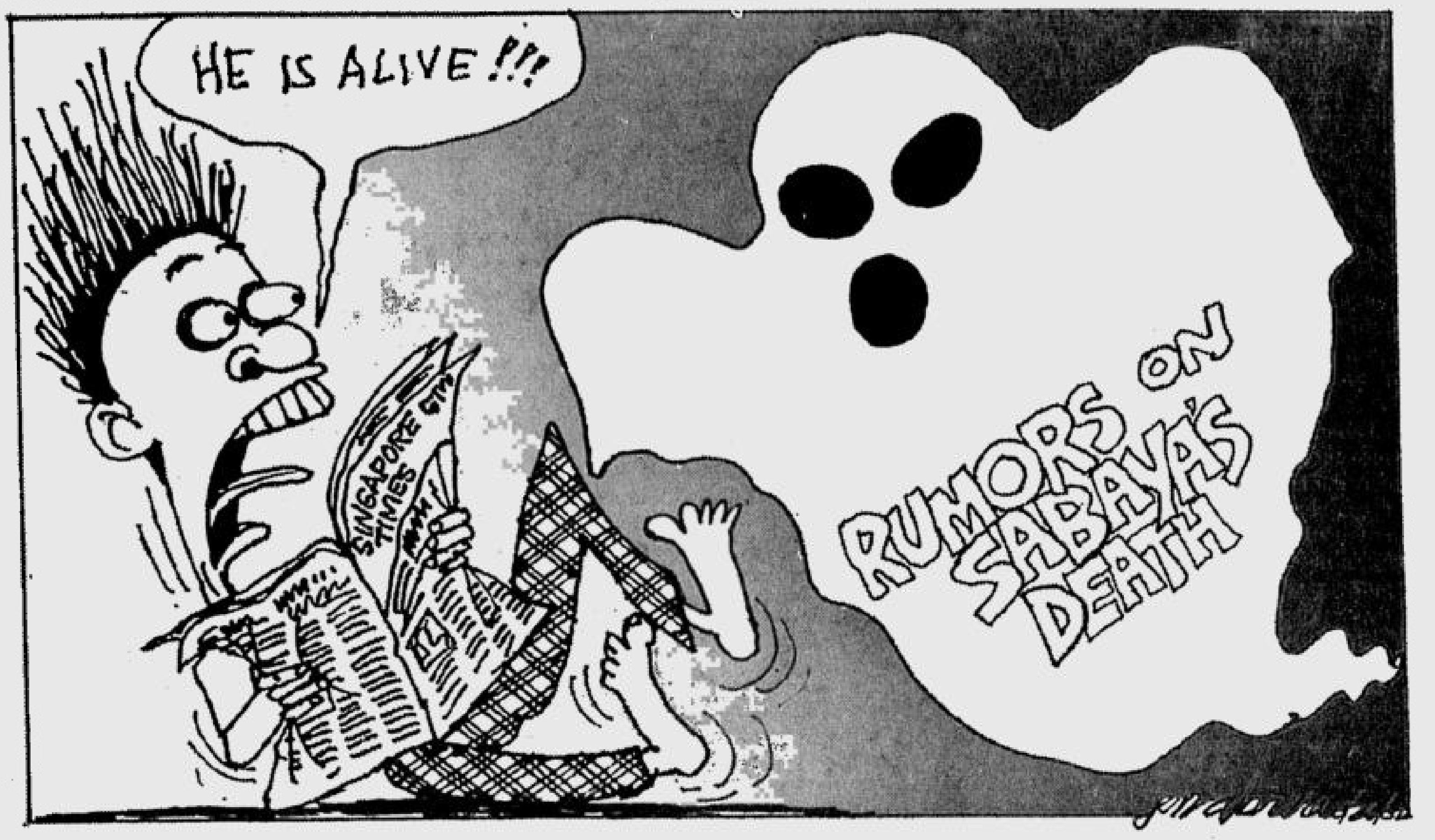
This is what makes the whole experience more infuriating and worrisome: that nothing—no flood, no accident, no demonstration—seemed to be causing the gridlock, meaning it could strike anytime. The only thing that was out of the ordinary last Monday, aside from that infernal traffic, of course, was that not a single traffic policeman or traffic enforcer was in sight at that time of day along Edsa, or even on Gil Puyat up to the Ayala intersection. So where did all of the people assigned to get traffic moving go? It couldn't be that every traffic policeman was running after the hoods who gunned down one of their own. And if they were, where were all the traffic aides? Did they perhaps invite themselves to the wedding of First Son Mikey Arroyo and Angela Montenegro? Or were they enjoying a hearty lunch in San Juan which was celebrating its town fiesta or in Manila which was marking its foundation day?

On Friday, the situation wasn't much better. There were two traffic aides on the Santolan flyover, keeping watch over the stalled vehicle and perhaps waiting for a tow truck to arrive. Then there was another traffic aide observing the flow of traffic under the Buendia flyover. Otherwise, there was nobody in the entire stretch, leaving drivers free to wait all they wanted for passengers at the intersections and bus stops.

MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando will probably think it's unfair since he has hardly warmed his seat at the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority, but the traffic wasn't this bad when Benjamin Abalos was at the helm of the MMDA. Besides, his earliest pronouncements suggest that he considers solving the traffic problem a top priority. On Saturday, for instance, he talked about driving vendors away from the sidewalks and clearing the street of junk, old cars and parked vehicles. He also mentioned among his plans the opening of subdivision roads for public use.

All of these measures should help ease the congestion on the roads of the metropolis, but it will take time and a lot of persuasion, probably even force, to put them in place. In the meantime, the need to keep traffic moving again on Edsa and other main thoroughfares has gained fresh urgency. Although Fernando has a reputation for being Mr. Fix It, the public doesn't really expect him to work instant miracles. But the last thing people expect is a breakdown in the system. When traffic enforcers vanish from their posts for no discernible reason, it looks perilously close to being one.

Last week, Fernando again made news when he barred women workers at the MMDA from wearing pants or mini-skirts. But as reforms go, that is merely skin-deep. What MMDA employees, especially traffic enforcers, need is a change of attitude toward their job so that they will do their work with a sense of service—if not sacrifice.



Comelec, MMDA chiefs reveal their plans

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

WARNING to owners of container vans, truck trailers, bulldozers and other heavy equipment parked on public streets. You may find your property missing or cut up into pieces the next morning. The deed would not be done by thieves, vandals or junk dealers. It would be done, legally, by the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority.

Two chairpersons of the MMDA, outgoing chair Benjamin Abalos (now chair of the Commission on Elections), and incoming chair Bayani Fernando, told media members of their respective plans in the Comelec and the MMDA during the forum at the Kapihan sa Manila (Hotel) last Monday. Abalos said modernization of the Comelec will proceed as fast as the financial capability of the government can afford it. Fernando said he will liberate Metro Manila's sidewalks and streets of the anarchy committed by sidewalk vendors, motorists and owners of commercial establishments and heavy equipment.

On the latter, Fernando said owners of heavy equipment leave them on public streets thinking the government cannot do anything about them because they are too heavy to tow away. Don't be so sure, warned Fernando.

True, no city or municipality in Metro Manila has the equipment to tow them away, he said. But we have cranes and acetylene torches that can cut up the heavy bulldozers and haul them away. And it would all be legal, he added. The government is not that helpless against anarchy.

Motorists think they are being considerate by parking on the sidewalks to leave the streets clear, said the MMDA chief. Wrong. The sidewalks belong to pedestrians. Parked vehicles should be in parking buildings and lots, not on sidewalks and the streets. Vehicles on sidewalks force pedestrians to walk on the street and not only take up space for passing vehicles but also run the risk of being sideswiped by them.

Also, obstructions on the sidewalks—parked vehicles, vendors, flower pots, trash cans, etc.—discourage pedestrians from walking. Instead of walking a few meters to the bus and jeepney stop, commuters prefer to stay on the street corner to wait for rides. Because of the obstructions, they wait for their rides not on the sidewalks but on the streets, thus taking up space for vehicles and clogging the streets.

Commercial establishments rope off the sidewalks in front of them to reserve them for parking of vehicles of their customers and employees. All these have got to stop, Fernando said. Those sidewalks don't belong to those establishments; they belong to the public.

But if they don't allow parking on the sidewalks in front of them, these establishments won't have customers, Fernando was asked.

"That's their problem," Fernando replied. "You go into business, you must be prepared to follow the laws and all the rules. You can't profit illegally at the expense of others. Rent a parking lot for your customers."

Even vehicles parked out overnight on the streets of private subdivisions are violating the law, Fernando pointed out. They may be private subdivisions but they are still subject to the laws of the government. Developers and homeowners have to get permits from the government. You want to own a car, you must have a garage for it. You can't use the streets as your private garage. The barangay, city, municipality, or homeowner association, can legally fine and tow away these illegally parked vehicles, he said.

In Japan, you have to show a title to a garage before you can buy a car. In the Philippines, rules say condominiums should have basement parking for unit owners. But these are mostly for show. The parking slots are never enough for all the unit buyers. And so they park their vehicles out on the streets.

Fernando admitted he expects a lot of resistance from some people. But he added that from his experience in Marikina, when the people realize the total benefits of what you're doing, a great majority of the people follow and support you.

* * *

For his part, Comelec Chief Abalos said he has been able to bring peace between the warring Benipayo and Tancangco factions in the election body.

"How did you do it?" he was asked.

***"Hindi naman pala mahirap,"* he replied. "Those people are reasonable."**

Abalos said there is no conflict between the plans of the Tancangco group and the Benipayo-Namfrel group to modernize the Comelec. Tancangco wants to cleanse the voters' lists. Benipayo wants to speed up the counting. Tancangco wants to give priority to the Voters' Registration and Identification System (VRIS). The Namfrel wants to buy counting machines.

They are not contradictory; they are complementary, Abalos pointed out. They are both beneficial and they can both be implemented.

The trouble is that we don't have enough money. Both systems will cost billions of pesos. And the Comelec can't afford them. So the Solomonic question is which one to adopt first.

Even if the voters' lists are clean, the cheating is done in the certificates of canvass which are now written by hand, the Comelec chief explained. The antidote to that are the voting and counting machines. But if the voters' lists are dirty, you would be counting dirty votes. Obviously, they have to go together. But where do we get the money for them?

This column's suggestion: The congressional pork barrel amounts to hundreds of billions of pesos and most of it is used for dirty business: to line the pockets of senators and congressmen, contractors and other government officials. Why don't we use that dirty money to cleanse our elections?

Pride

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

BY THE TIME this comes out, Korea will have gone either absolutely wild or deep into national mourning. Yesterday was its semifinal game with Germany, the first time an Asian team has gone this far. As I write this, the game is still a couple of hours away, and Germany looks invincible. But Korea has done what nobody thought possible. It has worked a miracle, and you never know when miracles will end. One thing is sure though. Should Korea win, there will be jubilation the likes of which this biggest continent on the planet has never seen.

Should it lose, well, it will be the equivalent of Buddhist hell.

Of course I also watched the Korea-Spain game last Saturday—with my son in the same place, the Craic, and I forgot to acknowledge it in last Tuesday's column, but my thanks too to Dream Cable, which has been beaming the World Cup games religiously. That free advertisement ought to wake up the other cable networks who imagine the center of the universe is the NBA and the incredibly named "World Series." Well, some are just dreaming while others are free to Dream.

I cheered for Korea of course. And was ecstatic when its goalie, Lee Won Jae, caught Joaquin's spot kick, jumping to his left and sending the ball spinning out with a thump of his knuckles. Though of course I also felt very bad for Spain. Not least because of the Spanish crowd there that, rather surprisingly, watched the game in relative quiet—maybe they were awed by the more passionate Koreans, and their Pinoy sympathizers in the crowd?—and looked the picture of bereavement afterward. Truly, something, or someone, had died there.

And I did feel troubled about the officiating. The calls were horrible, even if you were a partisan Korean fan. Spain was clearly the superior team, dominating the game until the very last minute. They had pretty much all the attacking chances, although it is a tribute to Lee's skills they were not able to realize at least a couple of them. That save, where Lee had the presence of mind to twist the hurtling sphere to the outer side of the post—and where he also twisted his wrist in the process—was brilliant. I thought he would be a critical factor in the match. As it turned out, he was the decisive one.

But as I was saying, I thought that game was blemished in every way. Italy already complained bitterly about the referees when it lost to Korea, Spain has done the same. Sour-graping? Maybe. The point will be debated for years to come, probably without resolution. But the analysts are right: Korea's achievement will carve an even bigger empire for soccer. Certainly, it will spark a soccer renaissance in Asia, having demonstrated that the "World" in "World Cup" is not just a Western conceit but a quite literal description of the way things are, or have become. The World Cup is up for grabs by any country. It's not a matter of height and heft. It's a matter of speed and agility. And tons of talent. Tons and tons of talent.

But what's it all about? Why all the passion and the fury and the sense of heaven and hell hanging in the balance? If you cannot feel those emotions surging through a World Cup game just watching it on television, even with the fans in the stadium with their painted faces shouting their heads off and looking like they've lost it completely, you will most certainly feel it in the company of a crowd who, though they are wearing coat-and-ties in lieu of painted faces, are shouting their heads off and looking like they've lost it completely. What's it all about?

The closest answer I can think of is pride.

It's about pride, a feeling that is as sublime as it is scary. The scary part of course is that it's the same passion that fuels wars. You watch the ferocity of the games, the intensity of the fans at the stadium, and the total partisanship of the crowds in pubs, and you understand with the blinding swiftness of Zen enlightenment why wars happen. As it is, wars do happen in the stadiums and pubs themselves, leaving more than metaphorical casualties in the trenches, or benches. The human will to dominate is terrifying, often taking murderous turns.

But it is the same will to accomplish and create. It is the same instinct to sow and build. And when it is wrought with passion and artistry and an incomparable display of skill, it is a thing to behold. What is it really, this business of working a ball into enemy territory, handicapped by not being able to use one's hands, and trying to put it into a space bounded by several posts and a net? It is nothing more or less than the business of erecting Cyrstal Palaces, weaving dreams and ideas, leaving traces of the human presence. It is nothing more or less than the business of living life, buffeted by adversity, handicapped by all the flaws and weaknesses that flesh-and-blood is heir to.

But the end of it is a feeling of triumph. The end of it is the feeling of having left a mark on the world. The end of it is pride.

Each time I watch a World Cup game, I get awed by its massive energy. It leaps out of the television set, and assails me like a storm. I wonder then when we ourselves will ever be infused by its spirit, when we ourselves will ever catch its breath. Wouldn't it be marvelous if we could also be this intense about something so trivial as a game? Wouldn't it be marvelous if we could also be this single-minded about something so insignificant as a goal? Wouldn't it be marvelous if we could also be this euphoric and grief-stricken about something so fickle as victory and defeat?

Wouldn't it be marvelous if we could also be this proud about something so gratuitous as a nation?

Bolstering the myth

ANALYSIS

Amando Doronila

FILIPINO and American military authorities are far more certain about the death of Abu Sabaya than the US government has been on the fate of Osama bin Laden.

Brig. Gen. Donald Wurster, commander of the US forces taking part in the Balikatan exercises, swears on his wages that Sabaya was killed in the encounter with the Philippine Marine Special Warfare Group last Friday off Sibuco in Zamboanga del Norte. Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes expressed as much conviction when he said he was "convinced" of Sabaya's death. Reyes backs his conviction with the testimony of four Sabaya cohorts who were captured after the gunfight and that of Marines who chased Sabaya and his gang and snipers who claimed they hit him.

Despite the heavy bombardment by US forces in Afghanistan, equipped with heat-seeking missiles that penetrated Afghanistan's caves and hitech surveillance instruments, the Pentagon was never certain whether Bin Laden was killed in the US-led campaign late last year.

The other day, a report quoting unidentified intelligence sources was published in the Singapore Straits Times saying that Sabaya was sighted in Maluso, Basilan, and that he was expected to "give a statement in the coming days." This report prompted Wurster and Reyes to hose the report down with the velocity of a fire extinguisher.

By coincidence last Sunday, Sulaiman Abu Gaith, a spokesperson for Bin Laden, claimed in an audio-tape recorded on the Qatar-based Al-Jazeera television, that "98 percent of the leadership of the al-Qaida organization is alive...the whole world will discover that in an interview with Osama bin Laden which will appear soon in television screens." He said Bin Laden was "in good health." He claimed al-Qaida was responsible for the bombing of a Tunisian synagogue in April, killing 19 people.

This report drew a strong reply from a US military spokesperson who rejected as "wishful thinking" the claim that 98 percent of the al-Qaida leadership has survived the US action in Afghanistan. US officials are divided over their belief on Bin Laden's fate, although intelligence assessment thinks he is alive.

Dead or alive, it is important for the Abu Sayyaf and for al-Qaida, to foster the myth of indestructibility and invincibility of their respective leaders. A recent report, quoting US or allied intelligence sources, described Bin Laden as having been ill. There were also reports saying that Bin Laden had died entombed in the caves of Tora Baro, in southeastern Afghanistan, which was raked by US bombs and missiles.

In the caves and mountainous terrain of Afghanistan, it is hard to track the movements of terrorists, much less identify them, despite sophisticated surveillance equipment. Off the Zamboanga del Norte coast, the hunt for Sabaya and his fleeing gang was relatively easier with the aid of surveillance instruments made available to Filipino troops by the US forces. They were able to clearly identify their quarry. The fact that they deployed snipers indicates that they were more focused with their targets.

Myths are built from vagueness. This is why the recovery of Sabaya's body is important to prevent him from being mystified. In the Sulu Sea, where predators abound, it is not at all certain that Sabaya's body or those of his cohorts will ever again float to the surface. Impostors, claiming to be Sabaya without showing his face, can speak to the gullible on TV and radio and continue to cast doubt on the official version.

The purpose of fostering the belief that either Sabaya or Bin Laden—without visible evidence of their existence is alive and well—is to perpetuate the myth of their invincibility in their fight against enormous odds, whatever their cause. This does not, however, stop the government and the military from pressing on with their offensive to decimate the remnants of the Abu Sayyaf, now scattered in Basilan and Jolo. The vulnerability of the Abu Sayyaf and Abu Sabaya became evident when his group, who were then in custody of the three hostages (Martin and Marcia Burnham and Ediborа Yap), transferred to Zamboanga del Norte from Basilan.

No doubt the joint RP-US Balikatan exercises, which were centered on Basilan, put the Abu Sayyaf on the defensive and forced them to split into small units. By the time of the rescue of the hostages on June 7, Abu Sabaya's unit had less than 30 armed men isolated in Zamboanga del Norte, compared to more than a thousand men during the abduction at the Dos Palmas resort in Palawan in May last year.

The al-Qaida has warned that despite its setback in Afghanistan, it is still capable of launching attacks without a centralized leadership. These threats have broken out into violence, such as the April bombing in Tunisia. Recently, the United States had a scare when it was announced that a terrorist linked to al-Qaida had been arrested for an alleged plan to explode a "dirty" nuclear bomb in America.

New leaders will without doubt step into the shoes of Sabaya as the Abu Sayyaf's front man, but most of them are not as flamboyant and swashbuckling as Abu Sabaya. Sabaya cultivated an image designed to instill fear, impregnability and invincibility. For a while, he succeeded—until Marine snipers hit their mark.

Who's guilty of 'selective compassion'?

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

FOR SUPPORTING the reproductive rights of women and men, including the right to access to emergency contraception, I have been accused of practicing "selective compassion." Specifically, I have been accused of "favoring" the rights of women over the rights of their children, of the fetuses in their wombs or in the case of emergency contraception, of their fertilized ova.

For the life of me, I can't imagine a clearer example of "selective compassion" than this—hearts bleeding for the fate of a fertilized ovum (whose size is approximately that of the period at the end of this sentence) while ignoring the rights, the health and the life of the woman whose body produced that ovum and gives it shelter.

To assert that the fertilized ovum has the right to "life" outside of the woman's desires, assent, consent, or cooperation is to ignore the biological, if not moral and ethical, fact that without the woman's body there would not even be the prospect of new life. To insist that the ovum or fetus enjoys rights separate from that of the woman is to reduce all women to walking ovaries, fallopian tubes and uteruses—not to mention cervixes and vaginas. We have struggled for decades to rise above our identification as sex objects who exist solely for the sexual gratification of men. Today, the struggle extends against what many insist is our "proper" role as reproductive objects, who exist solely to provide wombs to house fertilized ova and hormones and nutrients to nurture them till birth.

A later column will tackle the scientific basis, if any, for the assertion that "sure as day follows night," a fertilized ovum will result in a viable pregnancy. For now, let me discuss further the links between mother and child, links that extend beyond fertilization and pregnancy, to birth and post-natal care and indeed, to newborn and early childhood survival.

* * *

THE SURVIVAL of the mother is critical to the survival of the child. That seems fairly easy to grasp, and yet so many people seem all too willing to ignore the mother and focus instead solely on the child.

But a study of maternal and infant mortality around the world, "Healthy Mothers and Healthy Newborns: The Vital Link," declares that "Making motherhood safer is critical to saving newborns." Research shows that "a significant number of stillbirths and neonatal deaths could be prevented if all women were adequately nourished and received good quality care during pregnancy, delivery and the postpartum period."

For a newborn to survive, especially in the developing world, it is critical that his or her mother survives the process of childbirth and is healthy enough to look after him or her. The link between healthy mothers and healthy newborns is undeniable. "When mothers are malnourished, sickly, or receive inadequate prenatal and delivery care, their babies face a higher risk of disease and premature death. The rate of neonatal death is thus high in regions where the risk of maternal death is high."

The study urges governments to pour resources into the care of mothers and children during the immediate post-delivery period, "a vulnerable time for both mothers and newborns." The authors say that "61 percent of maternal deaths occur during the first six weeks after birth, and nearly half of those deaths take place during the first day after delivery. Two-thirds of neonatal deaths occur in the first week of life, and two-thirds of those die within the first 24 hours."

What makes these statistics all the more terrible to behold is that it takes fairly simple steps to ensure, for one, the survival of the newborn. Among these forms of "simple, low-cost care" are two doses of tetanus toxoid vaccine for a mother during pregnancy, training in midwifery skills for birth attendants and encouraging a mother to breast-feed her baby and keep the baby warm.

* * *

ENSURING the survival of both mother and child begins long before birth or even pregnancy. It begins, in fact, with raising healthy girls. The nutritional status of girls and women "affects fetal development and newborn health," says the study. The health of a newborn depends on the health status of the mother, and malnourished mothers, who may enter pregnancy already of poor health, are almost sure to give birth to low birth weight infants with poor chances of survival.

This is how the study traces the inter-generational path of maternal and infant mortality: "Baby girls born underweight often grow up to be short, underweight adults. Very short women are more likely to have obstructed labor, which is dangerous for both their own health and that of their newborns. And thus the cycle continues."

Newborn health is also affected by the timing and frequency of pregnancy. If a woman is too young (below 18 years old) or too old (35 years and above), has babies too closely spaced (less than three years apart), has had too many pregnancies (more than four) and is sick, she places herself and her child at increased risk of complications.

"Research clearly highlights the association between newborn and infant mortality and birth interval," notes the study. Reproductive health, and specifically the provision of family planning services and counseling, is thus a public health imperative. It is truly a matter of life and death for women and children.

Clearly, to speak for the rights of women, especially our right to decide for ourselves if and when and how (and with whom!) we are to be mothers, is also to speak for the rights of the children we will bear. "Selective compassion" my foot!

The tradition of good weather eggs

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo

ONE detail in the feverish preparations for the Arroyo-Montenegro wedding caught my attention last week. While everyone was so engrossed with lifestyle articles concerning the color motif, who would design the bride's gown and the groom's barong Tagalog, table setting, flowers, etc., I was interested in a basket of eggs. An enterprising reporter followed an offering of eggs to a Carmelite community in Pampanga with the request that the nuns pray for good weather in Lubao on June 24. Nothing, it seems, was left to chance. The groom's mother may be President of the Republic of the Philippines, but even she cannot guarantee a sunny wedding day. Since their prayers were answered, I wondered aloud, if we have one shot at divine intercession, one wish granted, why waste it on good weather? Why not ask for something more important like a boom economy, an end to the Erap trial, or extermination of the Abu Sayyaf?

They say June is a season for weddings, but in the Philippines this month comes with very unpredictable weather. You can have scorching heat one second and a downpour the next second. Rain would have ruined the Arroyo-Montenegro wedding in Lubao last Monday, June 24, which is not only the Araw ng Maynila but a rather wet day in places where people follow the example of their patron saint, San Juan Bautista (St. John the Baptist), and either sprinkle or douse others with water. San Juan Mayor JV Ejercito requested people to keep the mayhem from 8 to 12 noon so that people who were not in a proper disposition to be wet and merry could be dry in the afternoon. In Balayan, Batangas the usual parade of lechon was accented by water-throwing. One wonders how crispy or edible these lechon will be after they are soaked with water from unknown sources.

Back to the "good weather eggs" offered for the Arroyo-Montenegro wedding. I would guess that Carmelite prayers are as good as anyone else's as long as these are sincere, but by tradition a dozen eggs should be sent instead to the Monasterio de Santa Clara on C-5, off Aurora Boulevard, Quezon City. From childhood I overheard my mother and assorted relatives congratulating themselves for parties without rain because they sent eggs to the Monasterio de Santa Clara. Last Friday, my favorite aunt, Luz Un Ocampo, sent eggs to Sta. Clara to ensure good weather at the opening of a new restaurant in Pampanga. To emphasize her petition she added an umbrella with the eggs. Since cloistered nuns rarely go out, I doubt if they have much use for an umbrella, but what do they do with all those eggs? Poor Clares or "Clarisas" are not known for cakes, cookies, or leche flan. Maybe, during the Spanish colonial period, the nuns supplied contractors with eggs to be mixed into the mortar to make it stronger.

Ricky Jose, who has gone over all the archival material on churches and church building in Cavite, noted expenditures for duck eggs in 1808, 1824 and 1825. In October 1824 none other than Fr. Mariano Gomes, who was executed in 1872 with Fathers Burgos and Zamora, ordered duck eggs and honey to mix with the lime used in the flagstones for the church transept in Bacoor. In another document dated March 1828, another priest ordered 200 duck eggs for the *paletada* (stucco covering) for the cistern of the *convento* in Imus. In May 1826 another priest bought 300 duck eggs and honey for the canal on yet another church roof in Cavite. Jose even found a document of 1780 proving the use of duck eggs and bamboo sap to seal the dome of the Manila Cathedral.

One wonders whether these ancient engineers and architects used the whole egg. Perhaps only the yolk was used, or maybe just the egg white? On a recent trip to Iloilo I was given a box of biscuits from the Panaderia de Molo by Kristine Trenas who claims the Panaderia was probably established around 1831 when the Molo church was being constructed. Since egg whites were used in church-building, the yolks resulted in their famous *galletas, biscocho principe, broas, hojaldres, rosquetes, banadas, kinamonsil, kinihad, biscocho de cana* and *barquillos*. Most of their heirloom recipes utilize egg yolks, thus when the church was completed and the *panaderia* was stuck with egg whites, these became the sweet, twirled merengue.

Frankly, I do not see what St. Clare of Assisi has to do with good weather. She is actually the patroness of television. Paradoxically, in Obando, barren women dance and sing that racy song that begins with "*Santa Clara pinong pino*"...asking for a baby when Sta. Clara lived and died a virgin. Franciscan historian Fr. Antonio Ma. Rosales, OFM explains that the origin for the "good weather egg" tradition is that *clara* in Spanish means both a clear, cloudless day and egg white. Thus, by sending eggs to the Monasterio de Santa Clara you are engaging in a pun, a play on words, when you request the nuns to pray for "clear" weather. The end result is that: people still send the dozen eggs to Sta. Clara for good weather, our colonial churches are still standing probably due to egg white in the mortar, and we enjoy cholesterol rich deserts like leche flan, and the bite-size *tocino del cielo* that contains one egg yolk apiece.

* * *

Comments are welcome at ambeth@admu.edu.ph

A creek in the city

HIGH BLOOD

Manuela Perez Samson

WE'D also like to know the concerns of the sixtysomething and above, what makes their blood pressure rise or makes them sit back, content that all's well with their world and with themselves. —Ed.

ONCE there was a creek called Lantana. It was named after the flower that grew wild and profusely all around it, mingling with the *talahib* and *makahiya*, and dotting the surroundings with a brilliantly maddening orange (it was the orange variety that grew there). I have since learned that *lantana* is the Indian name for the flower.

We lived on that street—or perhaps "road" would have defined it better, so narrow it was it could have qualified as a dirt road, unpaved, loose pebbles, dust flying all over whenever an occasional vehicle passed through. And across that road from our house was this wide expanse of tall green grass accented with sunflowers—unbelievably huge, wild sunflowers, their bright yellow faces following the sun faithfully as it journeyed across the sky. There they all were—creeping *makahiya*, graceful *talahib* swaying in the breeze like white-gowned fairies dancing to some unheard music, and the bright orange *lantana*.

Beyond all that, there was the creek.

It was a favorite spot for me when I was a child, this creek that wound its way over stones and little rocks, starting from I knew not where, and ending way beyond childhood's imaginative boundaries. I liked to think that somewhere at the end of it, it must meet up with the sky.

The creek was not so wide that I could not go across it to the opposite bank, jumping over rocks and stones, one foot sometimes slipping into the cool water. The creek literally "sang" as it flowed over stones and pebbles polished clean and smooth through many days and weeks and months, and perhaps even years of running water. Water so clear you could see right through to the bottom where little fishes swam. And once, I swear I actually saw a kingfisher swoop down from the air, its brilliant blue and green and orange feathers flashing in the sun as it came up once again with a fish in its beak.

It was an early afternoon in summer (that most enchanting season to a child) and I was seated on my favorite rock, delighting in the feel of cool water tickling my toes, watching the sunlight filtering through the branches of trees, creating dappled light shadows on the leaves, rippling like sparkling diamonds in the water. Then came this dazzling winged creature swooping down from the sky...ah, never again would I feel such wonder, such awe, such a lifting of spirit at the sight.

It was so quiet there, so peaceful, so clean and fresh. You could actually smell the grass, you could actually hear yourself thinking, if at all you felt like thinking instead of just surrendering yourself to the pure delight and luxury of such an idyllic place, such a purely innocent time. Places they show on Discovery Channel and Lonely Planet evoke memories of that innocence, that purity of air, that unpolluted time and place.

It also makes me feel glad to know that such places exist still, although not here, not in this shattered paradise that my country has become.

This time and place I'm talking about didn't exist in an earlier century, although it was before vehicles of all shapes, make and size invaded our world, along with aerosol sprays, plastics, chemicals and all that non-biodegradable stuff.

Once in a rare while, when I talk about that creek running behind the grass and sunflowers across the road from our house, my children would give me that kind of look that says, "Hey Mom, wake up!" This is the 21st century and we're on Planet Earth, remember? And their smiles would be tolerant and indulgent as they kiss me and hurry off to their various destinations, getting into their air-conditioned cars, driving down paved streets polluted by smoke-belching trucks and buses and jeepneys, going into offices cooled by air-conditioning, lighted by bright fluorescent lamps, windows closed against the sun, wind and air.

And it saddens me that they never knew, and may never know, the pleasure and joy of watching a bird of brilliant plumage swoop down into crystal-clear waters to catch a fish, then fly off into clean fresh air and bright blue sky unclouded by smog, undarkened by smoke from factory chimneys. Nor will they feel that childish, delightful pleasure of stubbing the *makahiya* with the toe and watching it close and droop shyly into itself.

It saddens me when the little children in the compound aren't allowed to cross the street because of the jeepneys and taxis (and now, even the buses) that come hurtling down, unmindful of pedestrians, their horns blaring and I hope that someday, someone will dig under the rotting, smelly garbage, and find himself a clean spot and place his ear close to the ground. For then he might hear the faint music of running water, and rediscover the creek that used to be there. And who knows but that a beautiful, colorful bird might come swooping down from the sky once more, to catch itself a little fish, and make some child's eyes widen with delighted surprise. Ah the magic, the enchantment of that long-lost world of childhood!

For I do believe that so long as man can dream even one tiny foolish dream of a world that respects Nature's wishes, and listens to her pleas, babies born today may someday be finding themselves favorite rocks to sit on, on lazy summer days, cooling their feet in clear, cool water, watching birds fly and fishes swim and listening to the singing of the creek.

Manuela Perez Samson is in her 60s. She was an editor of Women's Journal magazine.

THEY SAID

Zero tolerance

"I urge you to adopt a zero-tolerance poli[illegible] send a message to all the victims that we are your primary concern."

—Paula Gonzalez Rohrbacker to the Catholic Church on sexual abuses committed by priests

Free

"We are free. The Americans are here building roads and digging deep wells. They are not invading. They are helping us."

—Basilan village leader on the presence of American troops [illegible] province during Independence Day

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Making the minimum wage law more effective

THE DEPARTMENT of Labor and Employment's objective in fixing the daily minimum wage in the country is laudable, however, it is limited to the non-agricultural sector, agricultural, plantation, non-plantation cottage and macro entrepreneurs and retail establishments employing not more than 10 workers.

It was reported by the DOLE that almost 60 percent of business firms are complying with the wage law. I presume that the 40 percent that do not comply belong to the small enterprises employing less than 10 or seasonal workers; businesses, regardless of the number of employees that depend on sales, workload and market demand.

It is a sad reality that during this time of economic crisis, the unemployment problem aggravates the violation of the Minimum Wage Law. It is a difficult decision to accept an amount below the minimum but it is a matter of survival. Better to earn something for himself and the family than to wait for the legally mandated wage.

Along this line, I am proposing the expansion of the present minimum wage categories into more specific types or enumerating the covered industry under each category.

The implementation of the Minimum Wage Law in big firms should be left to the Labor Management Councils or to the Collective Bargaining Agreement between labor and management. These companies should not be covered by the minimum wage inasmuch as they can afford a higher wage than that prescribed by law.

In cases of unorganized labor in those employing less than 10 workers, an employment contract between worker and employer shall specify the wage and worker benefits. This contract shall be witnessed by an authorized representative of the DOLE within its immediate jurisdiction. This way, the government can monitor the wages and benefits of workers. In our present set-up, a majority of workers in small businesses like clinics, stores, restaurants, gasoline stations, piggeries and poultry, cottage industries, small stalls are not receiving minimum wage and benefits mandated by law.

Even the DOLE cannot effectively monitor those small establishments due to lack of field employees and operational funds.

We know for a fact that those workers are being neglected by the DOLE, and attended to only when they file complaints against their employer. But how many are complaining? Hard times prevent them from doing so.

It is time for the DOLE to make a deeper study on the fixing of minimum wage that can be applicable to any kind of business and type of worker.

I have high hopes for the Macapagal administration, the economist President can advance the condition of our small workers in small enterprises.

—**REV. CATALINO SAMONTE,**
director, PRO, Batangas Tripartite
Industrial Peace Council,
Batangas City

KMU wants DOLE chief replaced

WORKERS in the private sector are clamoring for the ouster of Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas.

We firmly believe that Sto. Tomas has performed poorly in her job of promoting the interest of workers. She failed to improve the living condition of workers as well as provide a better environment for employment.

Sto. Tomas and President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo only serve as agent-protectors of multinational corporations and local big businesses. Sto. Tomas now acts as the chief executor of anti-labor policies promoted by the Macapagal administration. Even her appointment to the International Labor Organization (ILO) justifies her commitment to serve foreign financial agencies like the International Monetary Fund and World Bank even though it would result in the further exploitation of workers.

We cite the following reasons for demanding Sto. Tomas' ouster from the Department of Labor and Employment:

1. Her full backing for anti-labor globalization policies promoted by the Macapagal administration.
2. Her continuous rejection of workers' demand for substantial wage increases, particularly the P125 across-the-board and P3,000 across-the-board wage and salary hike.
3. Her bias for the interest of employers for more profits over the concern of workers for secure jobs, higher wages and other democratic rights.
4. Her decisions to issue temporary restraining orders and return to work orders against striking workers.
5. Intensification of labor contractualization through DOLE's Department Order No. 18.
6. Rampant criminalization of labor disputes.
7. Her failure to reinstate the striking workers of the LRT and resolve the labor dispute at Nestlé Philippines.
8. The violent dispersal of various workers' strikes and protests.
9. Her constant promotion of the administration's labor export policy which hastens the commodification of Filipino workers.
10. Her proposal to legalize prostitution as a way of protecting sex workers.

The Macapagal-Sto. Tomas tandem has become notorious among workers for their acquiescence to foreign dictated policies. They protect big business groups with their constant refusal to grant wage hike for workers. We demand the urgent removal of Sto. Tomas from the DOLE.

—**ELMER LABOG, national secretary general, Kilusang Mayo Uno, 63 Narra St.,**
Barangay Claro, Project 3, Quezon City

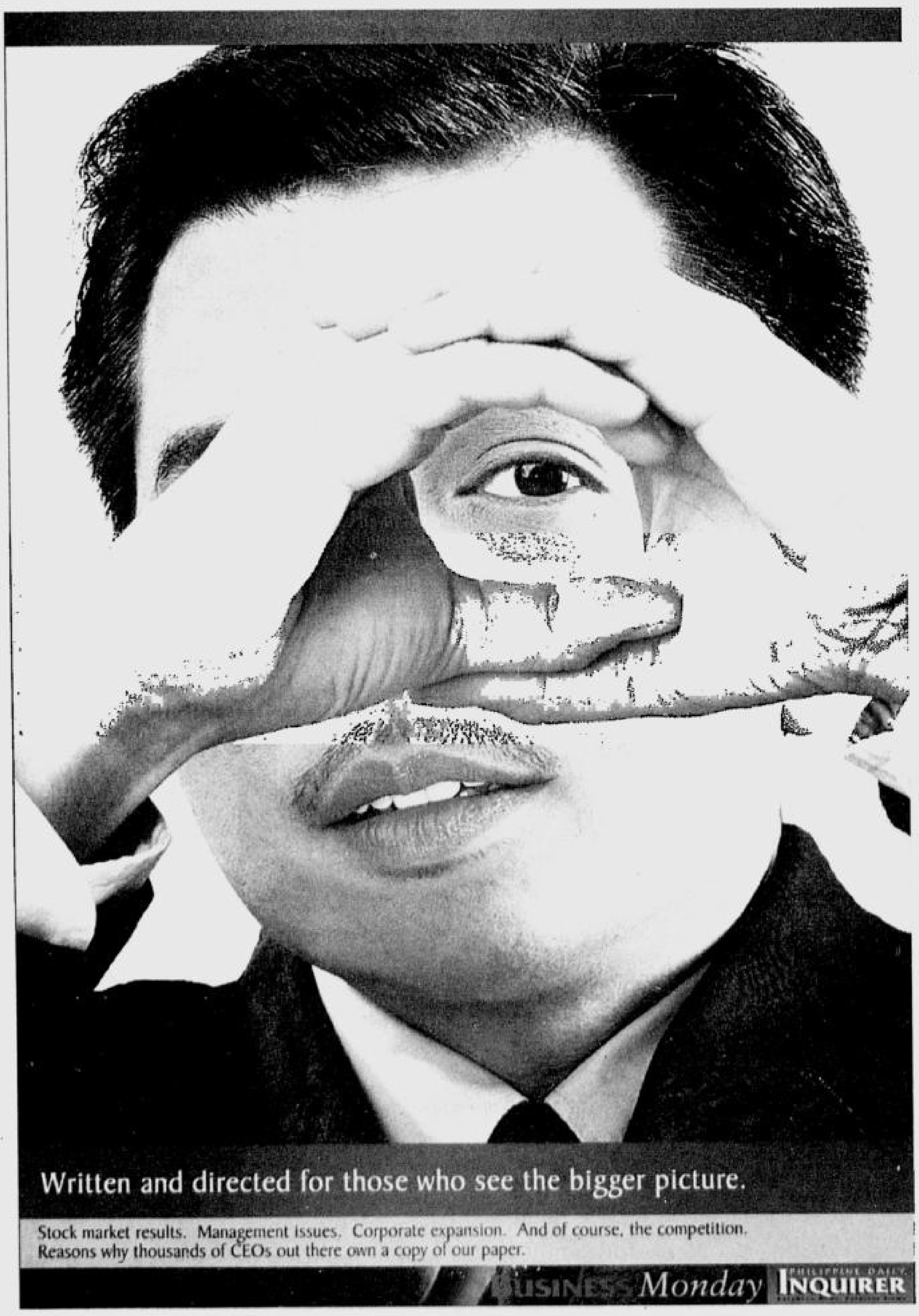
Biblical punishment for child abusers

WE read in the Gospel according to St. Mathew Chapter 18, that one day Jesus Christ took a little child and set him before His disciples and told them: "If anyone should cause these little ones to lose faith in me, it would be better for that person to have a large millstone tied around his neck and be drowned in the deep sea."

Yes, the pedophiles, priests or nonpriests! And who are the "little" ones? The "little" in age. "Little" in understanding, knowledge, wisdom and faith.

"How terrible for the world that there are things that make people lose their faith! Such things will always happen—but how terrible for the one who causes them!" Jesus concluded.

—**JUAN E. BONAFE, S.J., Xavier House,**
2307 Pedro Gil, Sta. Ana, Manila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BUSINESS Monday
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

A way out of Metro Manila's garbage crisis

TWO articles appeared in your paper last June 24, 2002. One, on the front page, entitled "Priests keep camp for waste recycling" by Tony S. Bergonia; and the other, on the Metro page, entitled "Recycling 'a losing proposition'" which refers to Metropolitan Manila Development Authority Chair Bayani Fernando's statement in the Kapihan sa Sulo media forum last Saturday as reported by Alcuin Papa.

The first article tells about the beauty of recycling and ecological resource management as practiced by the Center for Ecozoic Living and Learning situated in Silang, Cavite and run by priests of the Columban order, headed by Fr. Frank Carey. Their story belies Fernando's statement about recycling. Many other recycling success stories have been published, such as those in the Metro section (written by the undersigned) and other sections of your paper and in many other publications. More are still unpublished, both here and abroad.

The compost that Fernando might be referring to is the one at the MMDA Manggahan facility which is so different from the quality compost produced the correct way by several zero waste practitioners. Quality compost from biodegradable waste is already doubling the volume and enhancing the quality of harvests of certain farms in certain areas of the country. If more farms will be doing this, we will be solving the food security problem soon enough.

As for the "stuff that (Father Carey and company do not) know what to do with yet," such as empty cement sacks and cans of paint (and other materials that may be hazardous, infectious or toxic [HIT]), there are environment-friendly technologies for treating or recycling these. One is the technology of hydro-metallurgical extraction, which has been certified safe by the proper authorities. A facility for this technology is in operation in the Marina coastal area in Pasay City. It treats HIT wastes and turns these into construction materials, such as hollow blocks. Private companies, such as Unilever, San Miguel and Unichem, we have learned, are availing themselves of this technology. The Perpetual Help medical center and university, whose owners and management team are members and officers of the Zero Waste Recycling Movement of the Philippines, is now working out the funding for a small-scale module of the same, to take care of their HIT. This will make them fully zero waste because right now, all their biodegradable wastes are compost for their farms where they grow the food to feed their patients; and the recycling factories collect their non-biodegradable wastes.

We would like to appeal, therefore, to Fernando, to seriously consider the implementation of Republic Act No. 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act. This law, in essence, mandates the establishment of Materials Recovery Facilities (MRFs) or Eco-Centers in every barangay or barangay cluster to solve the garbage problem. If he is thinking of the MMDA as the "final recycling step," this could still pose problems because it will entail hauling from far places and depositing or disposing on a very big area, thus defeating the purpose of the law to contain the waste in the community.

RA 9003 and its accompanying Implementing Rules and Regulations can very well guide Fernando and Metro Manila citizens in solving the garbage problem. We, concerned citizens and members of environment groups, and of course, the Metro Manila officials, like Caloocan City Mayor Reynaldo Malonzo who has started to seriously implement RA 9003 in his city, will be more than willing to help Fernando in education and training and in setting up MRFs in the communities.

We wish Fernando the best in his stint with the MMDA. We can do it, Mr. Fernando, with the help of all concerned and enlightened citizens.

—**JOEY C. PAPA, ANA V. PAPA, Bangon Kalikasan**
Movement, Zero Waste Recycling Movement of the
Philippines Foundation Inc., 10 Mahabagin St.,
Teachers' Village, Quezon City

The fire next time for Fernando

"WE can't give in to the caprice of the people. There is no such thing as a private subdivision. When you build a subdivision and even when you build your house, the government is there because of the national building code. We should not take the attitude that we are absolute rulers of our homes."

Metro Manila Development Authority Chair Bayani Fernando is right when he made this observation. Most rich and powerful private subdivisions consider their turf free from control and supervision of the government. They impose exorbitant toll fees and even demand ID cards issued for a fee by their security force before motorists are allowed entry into the subdivision.

There are no clear rules and regulations regarding the government policy on private subdivisions. Even our legislators could not pass any law regarding this matter because of a very strong lobby from homeowners' associations.

Even the local government that has jurisdiction over a subdivision has to go to court to allow the public passage on subdivision roads.

We hope that Fernando's statement will serve as an eye-opener to those concerned in the government to act resolutely on the matters concerned.

—**WILFREDO T. MARTIN, San Agustin Village,**
Moonwalk, Parañaque City

Palestinians may be unable to meet new Mideast conditions

NEWS ANALYSIS

Tom Raum

WASHINGTON—There was little in President George W. Bush's Middle East policy speech to cheer the Arabs.

He set strict benchmarks as the price of US support for Palestinian statehood, including the replacement of Yasser Arafat as their leader and the creation of what few nations in the Middle East can boast: full democracy.

Those conditions will be difficult, if not impossible, for Palestinians to meet in the three-year time frame suggested by the president, analysts suggested after Bush outlined his evolving policy for the region in a speech Monday.

Bush didn't mention the Palestinian leader by name, but he didn't have to. "Peace requires a new and different Palestinian leader so that a Palestinian state can be born," Bush declared.

That blunt condemnation of Arafat, the Palestinian movement's leader since the Six-Day War in 1967, partly obscured the fact that Bush is the first US president to expressly support a Palestinian state.

Even so, Bush's vision of an independent Palestine alongside a secure Israel seemed as elusive as ever. A hoped-for international peace conference this summer appeared to be on hold.

Michael O'Hanlon, a foreign policy analyst at the Washington think-tank Brookings Institution, said Bush had made a "tough tactical choice" in categorically ruling out a role for Arafat.

"I personally would judge foreign leaders by their actions, not by their names. And I would tend to allow for the possibility of Arafat to be the peacemaker if it turns out that he ultimately accepts the terms along the lines of what Bush was proposing," O'Hanlon said.

Bush did renew a call for Israel to withdraw its troops and tanks from Palestinian areas and to stop building settlements there. But the main thrust was that Arafat must go.

Not surprisingly, that call was warmly received in Israel and among the Israelis' congressional allies. Rep. Tom Lantos, senior Democrat on the House International Relations Committee, called it "a rational vision."

Arab representatives slammed the policy Bush enunciated.

"The speech and the plan he laid out make it appear as if Palestinians are themselves to blame for their own suffering," said James Zogby, president of the Washington-based Arab-American Institute. Bush's policy "is a faulty assessment of the reality" and undercuts efforts at peace, Zogby said.

But Dore Gold, a senior adviser to Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, welcomed Bush's tough talk. "President Bush has established a clear standard for how we go from where we are today to where we want to be tomorrow," Gold told CNN.

Conditions on the ground could hardly have been less favorable for a new peace initiative.

Israeli troops and tanks moved back into more than a half-dozen Palestinian cities over the weekend and on Monday encircled Arafat's badly damaged headquarters in Ramallah. Israel also mounted an aggressive attack in the Gaza strip against the militant group Hamas.

Bush had planned to give the speech last week, but it was delayed by back-to-back suicide bombings that killed two dozen Israelis. The timing of the attacks seemed aimed at thwarting US attempts at peacemaking.

The president decided to go ahead Monday because to do otherwise "is in effect rewarding the terrorists," a senior administration official said in a briefing to reporters on condition of anonymity. The official said the situation in the Middle East had become intolerable.

Bush also wanted to explain his policy ahead of his meeting this week in western Canada with leaders of the seven other major industrial democracies and Russia.

Judith Kipper, director of Middle East studies at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, said Bush did not spell out an active enough role for the United States toward bringing peace. "A speech is fine. But words are not what we need now. We need a sustained, proactive American mediation. Calling for getting rid of Arafat is not going to help the cause," Kipper said.

While Americans' sympathies generally rest with Israel, the public also favors a Palestinian state and supports an activist US role, said pollster Andrew Kohut, director of the Pew Center.

"The public sees a linkage between events in the Mideast and discontent there with our war on terrorism," Kohut said. "The public wants the United States to play a role in achieving a peace."

Republican pollster Frank Luntz agrees. "Americans absolutely want the United States involved, so American lives aren't lost in the future. They will support anything that brings peace to the Mideast." *AP*

The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

Bush tells Palestinians to dump Arafat for state

JERUSALEM/WASHINGTON—US President George W. Bush has written off Yasser Arafat as part of any Middle East peace accord, saying Palestinians must pick new leaders "not compromised by terror" to attain a state alongside Israel.

Bush, presenting a long-awaited peace script, said Israel must do its part for peace too by halting settlement building on land where Palestinians are waging a revolt against occupation, and pulling tanks and troops out of Palestinian towns.

A senior Palestinian official retorted that Arafat was democratically elected and could not be ousted by foreign fiat. But a Palestinian Authority statement called Bush's address "a serious contribution" toward peace and requested more details.

A statement by Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's office did not mention Bush's speech but that repeated Israel was ready for negotiations after "a total end to terror, violence and incitement," Arafat's removal and profound Palestinian reform.

Within hours of Bush's speech, Israeli tanks swept into the West Bank city of Hebron early on Tuesday and clashes broke out with Palestinian fighters, Palestinian authorities and witnesses said.

The security authorities said two Palestinians were reported to have been killed amid exchanges of fire. Hebron is the seventh West Bank center entered in the past week under an Israeli policy of re-occupying and holding Palestinian-ruled areas until attacks on Israelis cease.

Israeli Defense Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, Sharon's main rival on the left in Israel's coalition government, said Bush had displayed "historic vision" by embracing a two-state solution.

That is regarded with deep suspicion by Sharon, the leading champion of settlers who consider territory captured in the 1967 Middle East war to be Jewish by biblical birthright.

The Yesha Council representing more than 200,000 settlers praised Bush's message as a "green light" for dismantling the Palestinian Authority—effectively reinstating direct Israeli rule over the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Ismail Haniyah, a senior figure in the Palestinian Islamic militant group Hamas behind many suicide bombings, said Bush had merely upheld "the Zionist occupation" and Palestinians would continue to "resist" it. ***Reuters***

ISRAELI soldiers adjust the cannon barrel of a tank in the outskirts of Bethlehem June 24. Israeli armor rumbled into Ramallah on Monday and surrounded the headquarters of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and the army said it was calling up a brigade of reservists under emergency mobilization orders as part of a "war against terrorism." REUTERS

Speech heartens Israelis, angers Palestinians

JERUSALEM—Israeli officials welcomed US President George W. Bush's Middle East strategy laid out Monday, but Palestinians angrily rejected his clear call for dumping Yasser Arafat as crucial to peace efforts.

The long-awaited speech by the US leader also drew a harsh reaction from the militant Palestinian group Hamas, which dismissed it as tilted toward Israel and vowed to continue its campaign of suicide bombings.

Bush coupled creation of a Palestinian state with provisional borders to sweeping political and security reforms by the Palestinians, including a move to replace the 72-year-old Arafat.

"I cannot find President Bush's statement acceptable," said chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erakat.

"President Arafat is the leader of the Palestinian people. He is the president of the Palestinian people," Erakat told CNN. "The Palestinian leaders do not come from Washington."

"The real issue is we need is to specify a roadmap, as the president says, to end the (Israeli) occupation" of Palestinian territories; he said.

But the Israelis, who have been pushing Washington for months to take Arafat out of the Middle East equation, were clearly delighted by Bush's call for "a new and different Palestinian leadership."

Dore Gold, a senior adviser to Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, told CNN that "President Bush has established a clear standard" for moving forward to end the suicide attacks and resolve the nearly 21-month-old conflict. ***AFP***

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Report: US power grid, nuke plants vulnerable

By Maggie Fox

WASHINGTON—The United States needs to move to protect nuclear plants and the power grid against future attacks and may need to reorganize the way government agencies work together, senior scientists said on Monday.

The country also has "enormous vulnerabilities" to a chemical or biological attack, made clear after the Sept. 11 attacks, the report from the National Academy of Sciences, an independent organization that advises the government, says.

"We now face a much more sophisticated threat than we could have imagined before September 11th," Lewis Branscomb, co-chair of the committee that wrote the report and an emeritus professor at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, said in a telephone interview.

"There certainly are a great many things that could be done and should be done quickly and a lot of them certainly are being addressed," he added.

"But there are a number of them that don't get addressed because the country hasn't sorted out who pays (and issues such as) do laws allow the technology to be put into place."

One top priority will be working with Russia to keep track of nuclear weapons and radioactive material that could be used either in a nuclear attack, or in a "dirty bomb" that would spread radioactive toxins using a conventional blast.

"Planning has been minimal at the federal or local levels for responding to either class of attack," the report said.

"Immediate steps should be taken to update the Federal Radiological Emergency Response Plan, or to develop a separate plan, to respond to nuclear and radiological terrorist attacks, especially an attack with a nuclear weapon on a US city," the report, written by a 24-member committee of experts, advises

"A single federal agency should be designated as the nation's lead research and development agency for nuclear and radiological counter-terrorism."

Recommendations from the Academy, whose Institute of Medicine arm sets vitamin policy for the nation, are usually acted on by Congress and the committee briefed members on their findings on Monday.

Another major vulnerable area is the nation's power grid, the report found. Paul Gilbert of construction project management firm Parsons Brinckerhoff Quade & Douglas, Inc, one of the committee members, said the system is huge and there are many places it could be attacked.

"We could also lose a large part of the electrical distribution, electrical transmission system," Gilbert said.

"In a worst-case scenario you would get a cascading failure," he added—one that could knock out a whole region for weeks or months.

This would affect not only the lights and industrial power, but also the water and fuel supply. "So we are concerned that early steps be taken to minimize such a threat and counter it," Gilbert said.

Such electrical systems are vulnerable to attack not only at distribution points, but to a cyber-attack, Branscomb said.

"The attacks of September 11 and the release of anthrax spores (in October) revealed enormous vulnerabilities in the US public-health infrastructure and suggested similar vulnerabilities in the agricultural infrastructure as well," the report reads.

It said new drugs and vaccines need to be developed to protect against biological attack, but simple defenses also need to be set up to keep weapons from ever being used in the first place. **Reuters**

Sydney airport sold in record privatization

SYDNEY—A consortium led by Australia's Macquarie Bank has won the battle for Sydney Airport with a bid of 5.6 billion dollars (US$3.2 billion), the government announced here Tuesday.

The Southern Cross group defeated the AMP-led Gateway consortium and the international Connect Group in the protracted contest for the right to run Australia's major international airport and the gateway to its tourist industry.

Finance Minister Nick Minchin said the sale price represented the biggest trade sale in Australian government history and the world's largest trade sale of an airport.

The proceeds of the deal, which reaps more than the combined price of Australia's 17 other privatized airports totaling 4.1 billion dollars, will go towards repaying government debt, Minchin said.

"On behalf of the government I do congratulate Southern Cross for a successful bid," he added. "We believe the sale price does reflect the value of the airport."

Southern Cross has given commitments to a substantial investment program as part of its winning bid, including expanding runways and building new retail services.

Under the terms of the sale, Southern Cross will shortly acquire all of the outstanding shares in Sydney Airports Corp Ltd, the airport lessee company which operates and manages Sydney Airport under a 99-year lease from the Commonwealth.

The winning consortium includes Macquarie Bank, the German airport operator HOCHTIEF Airport GmbH and the Commonwealth Bank of Australia.

The Gateway Group included Westpac Banking Group, AMP Ltd's Henderson unit, Deutsche Asset Management and Hong Kong-based Cheung Kong Infrastructure Holdings Ltd.

The Connect Group included ABN AMRO Holdings NV and French company Egis Group, Babcock Brown, Challenger International Ltd and Vancouver Airport Services. **AFP**

Huge Arizona blaze marches toward town

A WALL of smoke created by the Rodeo-Chediski fire approaches within five km of Show Low, Arizona in this photo taken from the Show Low Airport, three km east of the town, on June 23. The fire covers around 134,000 ha and has destroyed more than 180 structures causing approximately 32,000 residents of the area to be evacuated. REUTERS

SHOW LOW, Ariz.—Firefighters battling to keep the largest wildfire in Arizona history from destroying this small mountain community used bulldozers on Monday to carve out a fire line they hoped would stop the march of the massive blaze.

President George W. Bush was expected to visit the fire lines on Tuesday, after an announcement by Federal Emergency Management Agency Director Joe Albaugh that the agency would make $20 million immediately available to the state to help defray costs of the huge firefighting operation.

"The situation in Arizona is extremely serious and it is critical that the state is able to focus on what is of paramount importance—fighting these fires," Albaugh said after a tour of the area.

"The dedicated men and women fighting these fires should not have to worry about how the work will be paid," he said.

A smoky haze blanketed parts of Show Low, hampering air operations by fire crews massed to fight the raging wildfire, which has already charred more than 134,000 ha (330,000 acres) and come within 1.6 km of the town center.

Officials said the fire had slowed and that bulldozer-cut fire breaks and a break in the weather was helping to tame the fire, which has raged out of control in the eastern Arizona high country about 240 km northeast of Phoenix.

But fire spokesman Jim Paxon said a shift in the winds could put Show Low, which fire officials had earlier said might be saved, in imminent danger again.

"We're beginning to get the upper hand but Mother Nature can still hand us a bunch of jokers and other strange cards," Paxon said. "But we're determined to catch this fire and put it out."

Officials said the fire, believed to have been started by humans last Tuesday, now covers more than 134,000 ha. It has burned some 329 homes and 16 businesses and forced an estimated 30,000 people to evacuate.

Paxon said firefighters hoped to get their first degree of containment on the wildfire late Monday or early Tuesday, and said fire lines appeared to be holding the blaze back from a full frontal assault on Show Low.

But flying embers remain a serious threat, and firefighters were gearing up for a series of quick strikes aimed at dousing any smaller fires that might be sparked in town. **Reuters**

Historian wins British book award

LONDON—A portrayal of the Versailles peace conference at the end of World War One, an event that influenced the rest of the century, has won Britain's most valuable prize for non-fiction.

Margaret MacMillan became the first woman to take home the BBC Four Samuel Johnson Prize on Monday night with "Peacemakers," which was praised for being "daringly politically incorrect."

Chair of the judging panel, broadcaster David Dimbleby said the account "challenges the conventional view of the Versailles Conference, while bringing vividly to life the extraordinary event which shaped the 20th century and still resonates today."

Organizers praised the book for capturing the "personalities, ideals and prejudices" of a group of people who sketched out the shape of the modern world and were later made scapegoats for the mistakes of many who followed them.

The Toronto professor of history received a £30,000 ($45,000) prize and beat a strong challenge from Liberal Democrat peer and Chancellor of Oxford University Roy Jenkins with his biography of wartime leader Winston Churchill.

The other contenders were:

- "The Voices of Morebath," by Magdalene College Cambridge President Eamon Duffy, which uses the written accounts of a 16th century country priest to paint a picture of pre-Reformation life in a Devon village.
- "The Snow Geese," by Oxford author William Fiennes, a relative of actors Ralph and Joseph Fiennes, which tells of his 2,000 mile trek following migrating Canadian geese.
- "The Invention of Clouds," by London-based writer Richard Hamblyn, a biography of English meteorologist Luke Howard, who named cloud types in 1802.
- "Unfinest Hour," by Cambridge academic Brendan Simms, a study of the Bosnian conflict and British policies that may have extended its duration.

Previous winners of the award, in its fourth year, include historian Antony Beevor for his account of the siege of Stalingrad and music critic David Cairns for a biography of French composer Berlioz. **Reuters**

Musharraf: Pakistan's nukes a deterrent, not for attack

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan—President Gen. Pervez Musharraf said Monday that Pakistan developed nuclear and missile capabilities to achieve "strategic balance" with rival India as a deterrent—not for attack.

"Our nuclear and missile potential is defensive in nature and is a deterrence," Musharraf told a gathering of scientists.

Pakistan "has no offensive designs against anybody," he said.

Musharraf's remarks, reported by state-run news agency Associated Press of Pakistan, came as tensions between the nuclear-armed neighbors eased after they were on the brink of an all out war.

The two countries almost went to war after a Dec. 14 attack on the Indian parliament, which New Delhi blamed on Pakistan-based Islamic militants fighting Indian forces in the Indian-occupied section of Kashmir province. Pakistan denied any role in the attack.

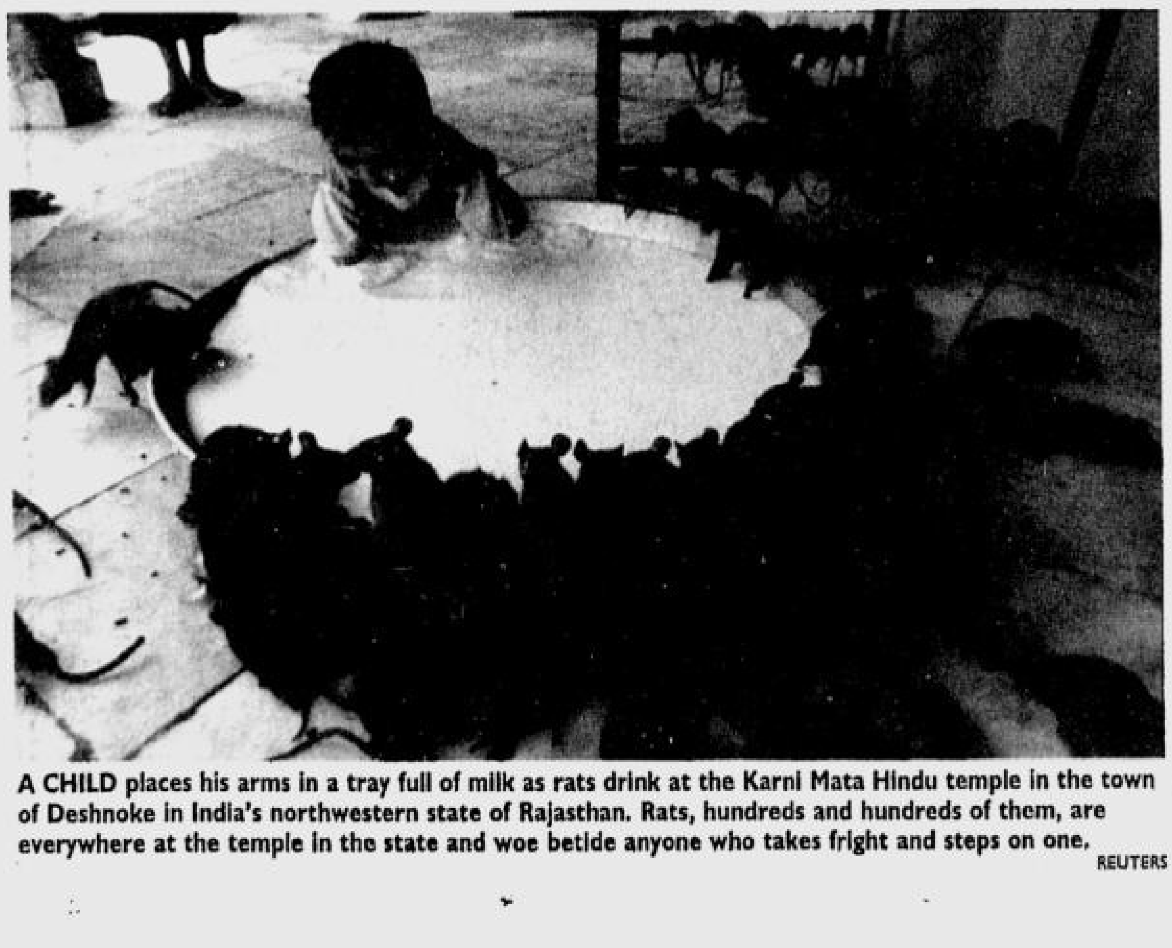
Both countries dispatched hundreds of thousands of troops to their border in the biggest military mobilization in the region since 1971. Tensions eased following intensive US and other international diplomacy, and after Musharraf pledged to stop insurgents from crossing into Indian-controlled Kashmir.

During the crisis, Pakistan test-fired three missiles capable of carrying nuclear warheads into Indian territory.

As tensions eased last week, Musharraf initially said Pakistan's nuclear capabilities deterred India from launching a full-scale war. He said later it was Pakistan's conventional military forces which were the deterrent.

Addressing an audience at the International Nathiagali Summer College, about 90 km from the capital, Islamabad, Musharraf praised Pakistani scientists for making it a nuclear state with missile capability, the news agency reported. **AP**

Rats rule the roost at Hindu temple in India



A CHILD places his arms in a tray full of milk as rats drink at the Karni Mata Hindu temple in the town of Deshnoke in India's northwestern state of Rajasthan. Rats, hundreds and hundreds of them, are everywhere at the temple in the state and woe betide anyone who takes fright and steps on one. REUTERS

By Paul Holmes

DESHNOKE, India—They scurry across the marble floors, perch snoozing on the railings and snuggle into holes low down in the walls, their long tails poking out.

Rats, hundreds and hundreds of them, are everywhere at the Karni Mata Hindu temple in the Indian state of Rajasthan and woe betide anyone who takes fright and steps on one.

For according to legend, the sacred brown rodents are nothing less than incarnations of human beings from the local Charan tribe whose souls are temporarily inhabiting the body of a rat until their rebirth.

"They are my ancestors," said Hinglaj Dan Bareth, a Charan and the headmaster of a school in the small desert town of Deshnoke where the temple was founded in the 16th century.

"If you kill one of them by stepping on it you have to offer a gold or silver rat to the temple," he said, sitting on some steps in the temple confines where the creatures rule the roost.

An estimated one million people a year journey to the imposing shrine, built in honor of Karni Mata, a 15th century female mystic believed by many Hindus to have been an incarnation of Durga, the great goddess of power and victory.

Visitors range from the devout to the merely curious, from newlyweds seeking a blessing on their marriage to foreign tourists, from the awe-struck to the squeamish.

"I enjoyed it. Two rats ran over my feet," said Sumit Jha, a 14-year-old boy from the town of Agra, home of the Taj Mahal, who visited the temple with his family.

"It tickled but I wasn't afraid."

If a rat scuttles across your feet in the temple, where visitors tread barefoot, it is considered a sign of good fortune.

Even more propitious is a sighting of a rare white rat, revered as an incarnation of Karni Mata herself by worshippers who stand hands clasped in prayer.

And, according to folklore, drinking milk or water from the containers the rats have sipped from brings surefire protection from the plague.

"Some of the people who come here do get scared of the rats, but we tell them they're harmless and there's nothing to fear," said Narayan Dan, one of the priests at the temple.

Karni Mata was born in 1387, the youngest of six girls in her commoner family.

An ascetic, tradition recounts that she got one of her sisters to bear children for her husband. Believers credit her with a series of miracles during a reputed lifespan of 151 years.

She is the patron goddess of the Maharajas, or princely rulers, of Bikaner, a city 30 km north of Deshnoke that was founded in the 1480s. **Reuters**

Mahathir to lead Malaysia until late 2003

KUALA LUMPUR—Malaysia's veteran prime minister, whose abrupt resignation sparked political turmoil, has agreed to stay on until late 2003 but hand many day-to-day duties to his deputy, a senior ruling party official said on Tuesday.

The official, who asked not to be named, said a statement by the United Malays National Organization (UMNO) expected at around 4.45 pm (same time in Manila) would confirm that Mahathir Mohamad, 76, had gone back on his tearful announcement on Saturday that he was resigning his post.

The bombshell speech, delivered on live television before Mahathir left for a Mediterranean holiday, caused consternation in a country he has run for 21 years.

The statement, to be broadcast after its endorsement by the UMNO Supreme Council, would confirm Deputy Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi as Mahathir's chosen successor.

It would also state that, on his return from Europe, Mahathir would take a two-month leave of absence and Abdullah would fill in for him.

Mahathir would later resume his official duties, continuing to attend cabinet meetings.

"Dr Mahathir will remain in the interim so there's a smooth transition of power to his anointed successor—Abdullah," the official told Reuters.

"The PM will carry out official duties but will be leaving much of the day-to-day running of government to Abdullah once he returns from the two-month vacation."

The official said that, once he retires late next year, Mahathir would withdraw to an elder statesman role but would take no formal post.

He said the UMNO statement would also stress for jittery markets that there will be no change in Malaysia's financial or economic policies, including the ringgit exchange rate of 3.8 per dollar fixed in 1998.

National elections are not due until 2004.

"Dr Mahathir will remain prime minister until after the OIC (Organization of the Islamic Conference meeting in Kuala Lumpur in late 2003), whereupon he will go on leave for two months and Abdullah will be Acting Prime Minister," the official told Reuters. Kuala Lumpur hosts an OIC Summit in late October, the official had earlier said it would be in September.

"Mahathir will resign when he comes back from leave and Abdullah will take over. This is the succession plan agreed by everybody," the official said.

Mahathir has said in the past that he has no intention of assuming a formal elder statesman title like Singapore's Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew. The official said his position was unchanged.

Malaysian markets have digested recent political upheavals without undue concern.

"The transition should be very smooth, Malaysia has a very strong institutional structure, particularly UMNO," said P.K. Basu, regional economist at Credit Suisse First Boston in Singapore.

"It's a nice buying opportunity, Malaysia's institutional strength is considerably stronger than the market understands," Basu said. ***Reuters***

MALAYSIAN Deputy Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi (right) stands with Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad during the opening of their United Malays National Organization party conference in Kuala Lumpur June 20. Malaysia's ruling party will confirm Abdullah as a chosen successor to Mahathir. REUTERS

US decision will remove 800 convicts from death row

WASHINGTON—The US Supreme Court ruled Monday that only a jury may impose the death penalty, a landmark decision that could affect hundreds of condemned prisoners.

The 7-2 ruling in the case of Timothy Ring of Arizona puts in limbo death sentences against some 800 inmates and will force changes in the death penalty law in nine states where judges have been allowed to impose the sentence: Florida, Arizona, Idaho, Colorado, Montana, Alabama, Indiana, Delaware and Nebraska.

The justices found that the US Constitution's Sixth Amendment guarantee of a trial by jury was violated by allowing judges to impose death sentences.

"The right to trial by jury guaranteed by the Sixth Amendment would be senselessly diminished if it encompassed the fact-finding necessary to increase a defendant's sentence by two years, but not the fact-finding necessary to put him to death," Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg wrote in the majority decision.

"We hold that the Sixth Amendment applies to both."

The decision is an additional blow from the high court to the death penalty—which remains legal in 38 of the 50 United States—after Thursday's decision which effectively prohibited the execution of the mentally retarded on the grounds that it constituted cruel and unusual punishment forbidden by the Eighth Amendment to the US Constitution.

In nine US states, although juries determine the guilt of the accused, a judge has, until now, had the power to increase the sentence, and even to condemn the prisoner to death, under aggravating circumstances.

The 7-2 ruling included votes from justices normally considered liberal as well as conservative.

Two executions initially slated for early February were suspended by Florida officials once the high court agreed to review Ring's challenge to the constitutionality of his sentence. ***AFP***

200 killed in Tanzania rail collision

DAR ES SALAAM—At least 200 people were killed and many injured Monday when a passenger train collided with a goods train in central Tanzania, the head of the rescue operation told AFP.

The accident, one of the world's most deadly train crashes for 15 years, took place at around 8:00 am between Igendu and Msagali stations, in the central Dodoma region, some 400 km west of Dar es Salaam.

State-run Tanzanian radio described the accident as the worst in the history of Tanzania's rail transport.

"The toll is now 200. It could rise because some of the bodies were trapped in coaches," Dodoma Regional Medical Officer John Kitimba, who is in charge of the rescue effort, told AFP.

The train, carrying about 1,000 people, was climbing a steep hill when its engine failed, sending all 22 carriages backwards down the track and into a goods train behind, according to several sources.

All but one of the carriages derailed and formed a tangled mass of metal.

Half of them were third class coaches each with an official capacity of 88 passengers. Trains in Tanzania, however, tend to be packed beyond this limit.

Dozens of police and firemen were taking part in the rescue and an appeal went out to doctors at nearby hospitals to head to the crash site.

Tanzania's Prime Minister Frederick Sumaye announced two days of national mourning during which flags were to fly at half-mast. ***AFP***

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Farmers ask DPWH to check scam

STA. RITA, Pampanga—At least 230 farmers, who have yet to be fully compensated 26 years after they lost their lands to the government's flood-control measures, have urged public works officials to look into alleged irregularities in claim payments to displaced tenants in Tarlac.

Sub-Allotment Advice No. 2929, issued in October last year, showed that the Department of Public Works and Highways central office released P7.448 million for at least 163 claimants displaced from farms along the Rio Chico River in Tarlac.

It was not known if all the claimants actually received the amount.

Early this year, the INQUIRER had seen some of the farmers following up on their claims.

In contrast, at least 500 farmers formerly tilling lands along the Pasig-Potrero River in Pampanga were allotted only P479,000 last year, another document showed.

The budget discrepancy has reached the office of Bayan Muna Rep. Satur Ocampo who requested a probe on the matter.

Alfredo Tolentino, DPWH director in Central Luzon, said he had asked regional officials in charge of land claims to submit the necessary documents.

The displacements took place when the DPWH widened and dredged several waterways in Central Luzon starting (in) 1976 for what were then called "river control projects."

In Sta. Rita, 230 tenants tilling lands in nearby Bacolor town were dislocated when the agency widened the Gugu creek and ringed it with earth dikes, according to their leader Exequiel Quiroz.

He said their claims for compensation, running to about P54 million, began only in 1997. This was after the farmers belatedly discovered Executive Order 1035 that guaranteed "financial assistance" to the displaced tenants. The order was issued in 1985.

The Gugu Dike, made of compacted earth, burst during a lahar rampage in October 1995, burying more than 20 villages in Sta. Rita and Bacolor towns.

The delay notwithstanding, the payments came in meager installments.

Documents showed that individual compensation reached only 3 percent in 1997, 7 percent in 1998 and 15 percent in 1999. The payments sharply fell in 2000 and slid down further to .006 percent last year.

Quiroz said the DPWH still owes the farmers at least P34 million in claims.

More claims are being demanded as 23 more farmers, who claimed to have been conned by middlemen in the DPWH, have asked for their shares.

Their leaders claimed that DPWH officials have ignored their appeal for inclusion in the list of claimants despite an endorsement letter from Ocampo. ***Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk***

NPA owns burning of buses

BACOLOD CITY—The New People's Army yesterday admitted burning the four Ceres Liner buses in Hinoba-an, Negros Occidental on June 20, calling it a "justified punishment" over the bus company's refusal to pay revolutionary tax and to make fare affordable to the riding public.

In a statement signed by "Ka Bayani Obrero," who claimed to head the NPA Boy Gatmaitan Command, the rebel group said the bus burning was part of the NPA's thrust at creating "maximum damage" on Ceres buses owned by the Yanson family.

"The NPA burned the buses because of the refusal of the Ceres bus owners to make public transportation affordable to the masses and its failure to fulfill its obligation to the revolutionary movement in spite of its huge profits," Obrero said in the statement.

The statement did not explain what it meant by "obligation" but authorities construed this as the refusal to pay revolutionary tax to the rebel group.

According to Obrero, the Yanson family had previously been given "warnings"—through the burning and inflicting of damage on several Ceres buses in Guihulngan, La Castellana and Binalbagan, Negros Oriental in May and June.

Obrero also accused the Yansons of "crimes against the people" for alleged land grabbing in Hinobaan and Escalante City.

The bus company's owner was also accused of not paying just wages and benefits to its employees, and for failing to provide speedy response to their obligations to passengers who have died and to victims of road mishaps involving Ceres buses.

Obrero asked the public to "understand" their actions. He also assured the riding public that the NPA would not harm any Ceres bus passenger or take anything from them.

The management of the Vallacar Transit Inc. (VTI), which owns the Ceres Bus Liner, belied allegations that it received extortion letters from the NPA.

The VTI said there was no truth to reports that the NPA had demanded P2.5 million in revolutionary taxes from the bus company. ***Carla P. Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau***

DENNIS SABANGAN

PROLIFIC PALM

The huge nipa fronds do not daunt this woman who hopes to earn for several days' keep as soon as she sells them in the market of Sibuco, Zamboanga del Norte.

Massacred Bacolod family buried

By Jolene R. Bulambot
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—Amid heavy downpour, four members of the Bacolod family were laid to rest at the Cebu South Memorial Garden in Talisay City yesterday afternoon.

Hundreds of people, most of whom wore black shirts to signify their grief, braved the rains to have a last glimpse of the sealed coffins of the murdered Bacolod family members—Elpidio, 65, his wife Rosalia, 56, and their children Ben, 38, and Evelyn, 32.

Ben's coffin was laid to rest on the same plot where his sister, also a murder victim, Alona Bacolod Ecleo, was buried in January. The bodies of Elpidio and Rosalia were buried side by side in another plot beside Alona's and Ben's while that of Evelyn was buried on the third adjoining plot.

A heavily armed lone gunman murdered the Bacolods last June 19 just outside their house in Sitio Pinaghagbong, Subangdaku, Mandaue City. Pursuing police later killed the gunman, said to be a member of the Philippine Benevolent Missionaries Association (PBMA).

The Bacolods were waiting for news about then ongoing police raid at the mansion of their son-in-law, Ruben Ecleo Jr., in San Jose, Dinagat Island, Surigao del Norte.

The Bacolod family had only one prime suspect in mind for the gruesome massacre—Ecleo Jr., "supreme master" of the PBMA, who is also facing a parricide case for the death of his wife Alona.

Ruben, son of Surigao Del Norte Rep. Glenda Ecleo, wanted since April, only "surrendered" after an intense firefight with the police that left 19 PBMA members and one policeman dead. He is now detained at the Bagong Buhay Rehabilitation Center (BBRC) in Cebu City.

Supt. Edwin Diocos of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) said he deployed 25 of his men to secure the remaining Bacolods and their immediate families from the Necrological Mass at St. Ignacius Chapel inside the Police Regional Office up to the cemetery in Talisay City.

More than a hundred policemen from the Cebu City Police, Talisay City Police and Special Weapons And Tactics were also deployed along the routes of the funeral convoy.

Onlookers stopped to watch in grief as the four bodies were brought to the cemetery.

Niño Bacolod yesterday told the INQUIRER that his family demands justice for the death of his parents, brother and sisters.

He said they could not forgive Ecleo, whom they blamed for the killings.

Ecleo had denied killing his wife and having a hand in the murder of his in-laws.

But Niño said nothing would satisfy the Bacolod family except "a death sentence" for Ecleo.

Karina Agarao, President of the Crusade Against Violence, yesterday came to Cebu for the funeral and vowed to help the Bacolod family avenge the deaths of their kin.

"Not one, not two, not three but four people are dead. You have heard about the massacre victims, you have heard about the people killed and we call them victims but they are not victims. Their only fault was they fought for Alona. Their only fault was they fought for justice," she said.

Agarao also challenged the police to solve the case in one week's time so as not to give a wrong signal to the public that criminals could go free for what they did.

"This is the worst victimization ever, in our 11 years . . . If the Ecleo think they can get away with it, they're wrong. If the government won't fight to ensure (the Bacolods') safety, CAV will," said Agarao in a statement she made shortly before the burial rites.

Police investigators have summoned five witnesses yesterday for questioning in relation to the Bacolod massacre.

However, the police admitted there was not enough evidence to directly link Ecleo to the killing.

2,000 Davao Norte farmers awarded land

DAVAO CITY—More than 2,000 agrarian reform beneficiaries in Davao del Norte finally received their land titles under the government's agrarian reform program during ceremonies held yesterday.

In Bukidnon, however, the Mapalad farmers of Sumilao town have yet to see what good the program has in store for them.

Workers of Tagum Development Corporation (Tadeco), a firm owned by the family of Rep. Antonio Floirendo in Davao del Norte, became the first agrarian reform beneficiaries to get hold of their certificates of land ownership award (Cloa).

The villages of A.O. Floirendo, Sindaton, Tibungol of Panabo City and Minda in Carmen town became the first ever Agrarian Reform Community (ARC) in the province on Monday.

"With this comes the proclamation of areas as ARC in recognition of the implementation of CARP and the efforts to sustain the reform," Carlos Munda, corporate communications officer of Antonio Floirendo Corp. (Anflocor), said.

Support

The Department of Agrarian Reform office in Southern Mindanao here said the beneficiaries will be entitled to various support programs.

But Homer Tobias, DAR regional director, said those who wished to avail of the assistance should go through a selection process.

"The beneficiaries will then have an active participation in the planning, organization and management program for their ARC cluster," Tobias said.

The establishment of ARCs, which the DAR will be initiating for the Tadeco workers, would increase productivity, he said.

While the Tadeco farmers have become optimistic of improving their lives, the farmers of Sumilao in Bukidnon are wondering if there really is a government program called agrarian reform.

Four years after they caught the nation's attention by staging a series of protests and hunger strikes, the Sumilao farmers are again facing a legal problem.

This time, it involves the land adjacent to the Quisumbing Estate, which they have been claiming. ***Ayan C. Mellejor, Dennis Jay C. Santos and Grace C. Albasin, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Rift between Davao and GenSan tuna traders widens

DAVAO CITY—Small fishermen at the Davao Fishport here have accused big tuna traders in General Santos City of monopolizing the market by banning them from selling non-exportable tuna direct to the wet markets.

The city council came to the aid of the small fishermen here by investigating another alleged move from General Santos tuna traders to close the fishport in Toril District so that foreign fishing vessels could dock at the General Santos City Fish Port.

"GenSan traders should not fault us if foreign vessels prefer Davao City. But I won't speculate about the action that would be undertaken later," Councilor Peter Laviña said.

Laviña, chair of the Committee on Trade, Commerce and Industry, said it appears that General Santos businessmen want to monopolize the tuna market.

Prior to the blocking of Davao fishermen from selling non-exportable tuna in the wet markets, the commodity sold at P80 a kilogram.

Laviña said these days, tuna can be bought at P120 per kilogram and the supply comes from General Santos City.

Vice Mayor Luis Bonguyan said that recent studies showed that the daily demand for tuna in the local wet market amounts to 27 metric tons but the supply could not meet it.

"It is worthy to note that the demand for tuna in the local market has steadily increased (but) its supply has remained unchanged. By operation of the law on supply and demand, an increase in the demand while its supply has remained unchanged would necessarily result in the increase in prices," Bonguyan said.

He said a Malacañang intervention could only be the way to resolve the problem.

The city council will draft a resolution asking President Macapagal to intervene by amending Administrative Order No. 195, which governs the importation of aquatic products.

Section 9 of AO 195 states that "fish unloaded by foreign vessels at accredited transshipment ports, which are no longer exportable grade or can be considered as non-exportable may only be sold to canneries and processing plants after payment of custom duties."

In General Santos City, Rogelio Lim, chair of the 600-member Socsargen Tuna-Handline Eco-Fishing Cooperative (Sotufishco) told the INQUIRER that Taiwanese fishers have been in cahoots with some tuna dealers in Davao City in an effort to strangle the billion-dollar tuna industry there.

"We have not submitted any petition to any agency of the government asking to ban the sale of non-exportable tuna to local wet markets in Davao City or the closure of the Davao City Fish Port," Lim, however, said.

But he said what General Santos tuna producers want is for the government to fully implement Republic Act 3550 or the New Fisheries Code.

Under that law, the Davao City Fishport should only be made a transshipment point.

But Taiwanese fishermen, Lim said, are using tuna dealers in Davao City as fronts to gain access to local wet markets.

He welcomed the investigation being conducted by the Davao City Council.

"The investigation will surely open a can worms," Lim said. ***Joel Escovilla, Ayan C. Mellejor and Aquiles Z. Zonio, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Prominent Chinoy trader kidnapped in Cebu City

CEBU CITY—A prominent businessman was left at a hospital here yesterday suffering from several stab wounds, a day after he was reportedly kidnapped by his business partner and three other suspects.

James L. King, in his 30s, of Holy Name, Mabolo, Cebu City was reportedly abandoned at the hospital by his abductors believing that he was dead. King owns several commercial buildings and a high-end bar-motel here.

Chief Insp. Noel Gillamac, chief of the Waterfront Police Station, said in his report to Cebu City Police acting director Josephus Angan that the kidnapping incident took place at around 12:30 p.m. Monday at the rooftop of the Metrobank, Plaridel St.

Gillamac identified the suspects as Roderick Go, Grace Tan Go, PO2 Roberto Petilos and Henry Baritua.

Gillamac said in his report that the suspects "conspired with each other and kidnapped and inflicted serious physical injuries, which would have killed James L. King in order to cover up Roderick's three checks worth more than P35 million, which were dishonored by the drawee banks."

King is now confined at the Chong Hua Hospital after sustaining several stab wounds in his body.

Gillamac's report did not state how the kidnapping took place and other circumstances of the crime.

But in his follow-up operation yesterday morning, the police was able to recover the red Toyota car of Roderick in his house in Barangay Ermita, this city. ***Jhunnex Napallacan, PDI Visayas Bureau***

Zubiri warns of drug money in village polls

DAET, Camarines Norte—Bukidnon Rep. Juan Miguel F. Zubiri has revealed here that based on intelligence reports, narcotics money would flow during the barangay elections in July, especially in urban villages.

In an interview with reporters here on Sunday, Zubiri said people involved in dangerous drugs in the country are trying to establish a network in the barangays to strengthen their distribution tentacles.

With this development, he said the Philippines could be another Colombia where the drug lords control politics.

One important move against this plan, he said, is the taking effect of the Comprehensive Anti-Dangerous Drug Act of 2002, which he authored and has already been approved by President Macapagal two weeks ago.

"Pending publication in two newspapers of general circulation, we hope to have the law take effect in early July, in time for the barangay and SK elections on July 15," said the Bukidnon lawmaker, whose mother belongs to the Fernandez clan of Libon, Albay.

Zubiri was here as guest of honor during the final selection and coronation of the Pinyasan 2002 Miss Bicolandia.

He said the comprehensive law against dangerous drugs is very strict, as anybody caught in the possession of even just half a gram of shabu will be severely penalized.

The Mindanao lawmaker said possession of 10 grams of shabu means life imprisonment, while 50 grams and above would be slapped with death penalty.

"For below 10 grams, however, we have a graduated penalty," Zubiri said.

Possession of 1-5 grams of shabu will have 10-15 years of imprisonment, while 5-9 grams will mean 16-20 years.

"Our aim is to reduce the demand," the Bukidnon lawmaker said.

He, however, emphasized that innocent suspects are also protected from being framed up by law enforcers.

ZUBIRI

"Any law enforcer who will be proven to have planted any dangerous drug in a suspect could also be charged with the penalty of death," Zubiri said.

In cases of a frame-up, he advised an innocent suspect to immediately undergo a drug test, get an affidavit from the village chief that he is a good citizen and get a National Bureau of Investigation certificate of no criminal record.

He said the law also requires mandatory testing for elected and law enforcement officials.

"We have to come out with a very strict law because 90 percent of crimes today are either drug related or drug induced," Zubiri claimed.

He said in 1982, there were only 200,000 drug addicts in the country.

"Now, we have almost two million drug addicts all over the country, more than half of which are below 25 years old," he said.

Zubiri said the law also provides for the creation of a Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) under the Office of the President. ***Floreno G. Solmirano, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Visayas and Mindanao including Palawan will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms especially on the Eastern section. The rest of Luzon will be partly cloudy.

SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	HI34° Lo 25°
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	HI 26° Lo 17°
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	HI 38° Lo 23°
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	HI 34° Lo 25°
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	HI 34° Lo 23°
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	HI 32° Lo 23°
Legazpi	Partly Cloudy	HI 33° Lo 24°
Calapan	Partly Cloudy	HI 33° Lo 25°
Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains	HI 33° Lo 26°
Roxas	Cloudy with Rains	HI 34° Lo 26°
Cebu	Cloudy with Rains	HI 32° Lo 26°
Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains	HI 33° Lo 26°
Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains	HI 30° Lo 24°
Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains	HI 31° Lo 25°
Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains	HI 32° Lo 23°
Davao	Cloudy with Rains	HI 31° Lo 24°

Compiled by: Ray Leyesa, PDI Research/06/26/02

ROUNDUP

Award for irrigators

COTABATO CITY—The National Irrigation Administration has chosen Victor Go of Sultan Kudarat as this year's most outstanding irrigation officer, besting over 60 other provincial irrigation officers in the country. NIA Administrator Jesus Emmanuel Paras handed Go the Provincial Irrigation Officer of the Year award during the 39th NIA anniversary celebration held at the central office in Quezon City on Friday. Other awardees from Central Mindanao include the Buluan-Pigcawayan Irrigators, first runner-up in the most outstanding irrigators association category; and the Kabris North Extension Irrigators, second runner up in the national irrigation system category.

Charlie C. Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau

3 killed in ambush

COTABATO CITY—Three civilians were killed when unidentified armed men ambushed them in Kabacan, Cotabato on Saturday. Supt. Odelon Ramoneda, Cotabato police chief, said Gerald Patricio, his brother JR and a still unidentified companion were on their way home when fired upon by armalite-wielding men. Feliciano Magsiboc, who was walking along with the victims, survived because he played dead. Police said the suspects immediately withdrew toward the Liguasan Marsh in Central Mindanao. Ramoneda said they have yet to establish the motive behind the attack.

Charlie C. Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Ecotourism capital

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY—Sen. Loren Legarda-Leviste is pushing for the declaration of southern Palawan as the ecotourism capital of the country. Legarda told the media during a press conference here that she has filed a bill in the Senate as the counterpart of Palawan's 2nd District Rep. Abraham Kahlil Mitra's bill in the House of Representatives, seeking to declare Palawan as such. She also showed optimism that the province is indeed fit to be declared the ecotourism capital because of its unique qualities.

Geraldford P. Ticke, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Telecoms security alert

BAYOMBONG, Nueva Vizcaya—Police officials in Cagayan Valley have ordered provincial police directors to tighten security in telecommunications facilities in the region following the recent attempt by suspected communist rebels to destroy a telecommunication tower in Cagayan. Chief Supt. Dominador Resos, Cagayan Valley police director, ordered the police to "strengthen security measures... to prevent similar incidents." Resos was referring to the burning of the radio room of the Globe Telecommunications facility in Gattaran, Cagayan, by suspected New People's Army rebels on Sunday. *Ben Moses Ebreo and Villamor Visaya Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

2 excursionists drown

NARVACAN, Ilocos Sur—Two men drowned in a beach in Barangay Bulanos here on Sunday. Police identified the fatalities as Judy Langbayan, 38, and David Dargo, 39, both of Villaviciosa, Abra. Langbayan and Dargo were with a group of 50 excursionists at Villa Gloria Beach Resort here. Reports said the victims, after a drinking spree with their companions, went swimming and were swept by a strong current.

Leoncio Balbin Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Bandit's courier nabbed

SORSOGON CITY—Donsol police have arrested an alleged courier of Julito Leosala alias "Kumander Awa," the most wanted man in Sorsogon. Sr. Supt. Arne de los Santos, Sorsogon police director, identified the suspect as Jose Loterte, 29, of Barangay San Isidro, Donsol. He was arrested on June 15 by virtue of a warrant of arrest issued by Judge Pierre Hate of the municipal trial court in Donsol. He was charged with violation of the Anti-Highway Robbery Law. During interrogation, Loterte admitted to being the courier of Leosala in delivering extortion letters to businessmen in the province, De los Santos said. Loterte, he said, identified a businessman who gives P10,000 per month to Leosala.

Emir E. Gamis, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Drug pusher busted

LUCENA CITY—A scion of a prominent family, which has long been included in the police roster as one of the suspected notorious drug pushers here, was arrested in a buy-bust operation on Monday. Supt. Danny Ramon Siongco, Lucena police chief, identified the suspect as Teodoro Salvacion, alias Teddy, 48, and resident of Barangay Uno, this city. The suspect belongs to the landed Salvacion family here. Salvacion was caught while in the act of selling 1.4 grams of shabu to a police asset during an operation of the local drug enforcement unit led by SPO3 Jose Foster. The suspect also yielded some 64 grams of shabu worth about P94,000 and concealed in a pack of noodles. *Dollin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

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Editor Jun Bandayrel ◉ Bureau Chief Rolando B. Fernandez

CICM priests 'liberate' selves

By Vincent Cabreza
Baguio City

FILIPINO Catholic priests shook the local church networks two weeks ago when they "liberated" themselves on Independence Day from the Belgian-controlled Congregation of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (CICM) to form a Filipino-originated Catholic institution.

Forty-five priests from across the country—some are in near-retirement while the rest are in their 40s—formally relinquished their assignments and designations under the 143-member CICM in the Philippines, in a June 12 communiqué that was sent to Vatican.

They re-grouped under the name "Missionaries of Jesus" in Antipolo City, where they sought temporary sanctuary under the vicariate of Bishop Crisostomo Yalung while waiting for a response from Vatican officials, said Bishop Carlito Cenzon of the Baguio-Benguet vicariate.

"They will need to await the Pope's confirmation of their new organization," Cenzon said.

The INQUIRER traced seven of the "breakaway" priests to Baguio City. Many of them have since left their convents. Church sources have not identified the priests' leader.

The breakaway group did not make their exodus public and had notified all CICM members about their decision only through church networks.

"Many have asked their former institution members to consider bolting out of the CICM as well," a church source said on Friday.

Amicable

Cenzon, a CICM member since 1956, said the break-up was amicable.

The CICM had established a reputation among Filipino communities for nearly a century and had treated the break-up as the loss of "a child, who is starting out on (his) own," he said.

The split was apparently the culmination of decades-old debates within the CICM about the importance of acculturation in missionary work for the developing countries, the source said.

The source said the debates centered on the efficiency of Caucasian missionaries who subscribe to a controversial 1962 Vatican II definition of missionary work: "missionary work was reconceived as transporting the faith from believers to non-believers or pagans."

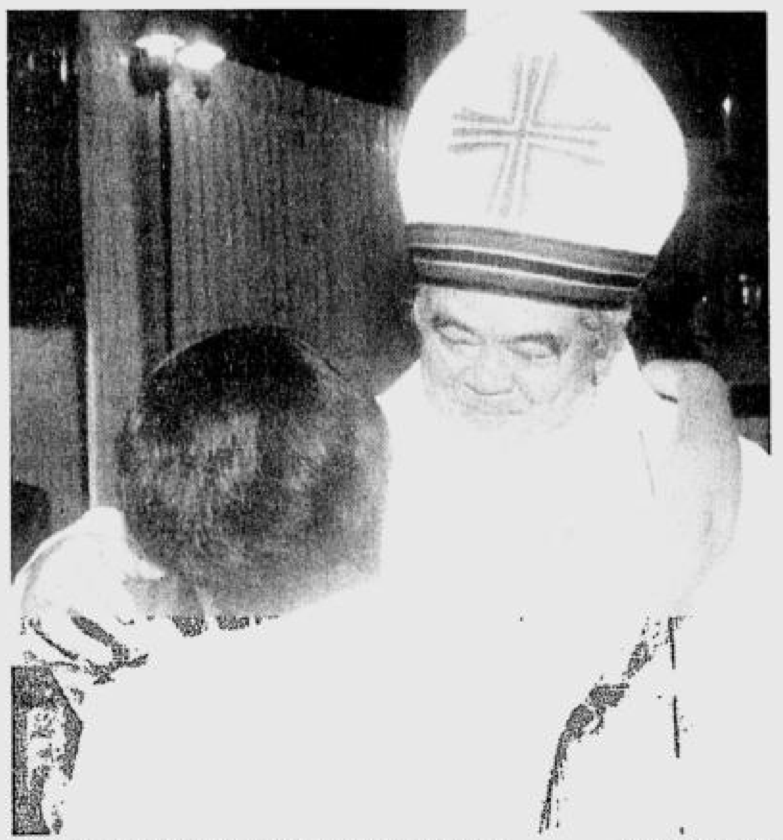
Cenzon said he was surprised to discover that many Filipino CICM priests have been "hurt" about the supposed absence of cultural sensitivities displayed by foreign CICM missionaries.

"We were all children of the missions. They inspired me to join the priesthood. The Belgians did a lot of good for the (Filipino) communities," he said.

The CICM was established in Belgium in 1892 primarily to convert pagans. The Vatican allowed the Belgians to develop a core group of missionaries that would be institutionalized for overseas work.

After enlisting a Dutch contingent of priests, the group named *Mission Belge a la Chine* (Belgian Mission to China) grew into "a sizeable group" by 1949, Cenzon said.

The missionaries were expelled by China's socialist government during this period. But the CICM had developed chapters in many countries like Africa.



BAGUIO-BENGUET Bishop Carlito Cenzon TOOTS SOBERANO

By that time, however, the CICM had set up regional outposts all over the world. The first Belgian missionaries arrived in the Philippines in 1907, just as American evangelists from the Anglican churches ventured into the Cordillera.

By 1952, the CICM allowed Filipino priests to enroll as members. Cenzon said the CICM has remained the largest and most influential church organization in this part of the country.

Bone of contention

"But at a certain point, the bone of contention (for new priests had been about) the effectiveness of mission work. The new thinking among some Filipino priests was for (the development of) a new manner of missionary work (that does not discard local customs). The younger priests were not content (about the traditional CICM practice)," he said.

"By acculturation the debaters meant: Do (missionaries) eat the food of the community? Or do they import food for themselves? Do they adapt the values of the community or do they simply assume that they are there to teach a better way? To the old missionary standards, the community practices were pagan."

In the last 50 years, a group of Filipino missionaries had wanted to "change the perspective of missionary work" that was laid out by Vatican II. They wanted to be guided more by the cultural prescriptions of target communities, as opposed to the "old order" of aggressive evangelization, the source said.

Tension became more evident four years ago during the CICM general chapter assembly in Rome, when all provincial superiors worldwide discussed policy reviews and elected new leaders, said Cenzon.

He said the opposition had stressed their sentiments about a new philosophy of missionary work in that forum. That assembly elected Fr. Joseph Lapauw as CICM superior-general.

"Give us a second province, the new priests asked the CICM, but the institution could not allow it. They wanted their own space to do mission work. Eventually, the CICM decided to just let them free, to pursue their vision. We all hope they can fulfill them," Cenzon said.

The INQUIRER contacted the CICM provincial house on Friday but was told that Fr. Romeo Nimez, CICM superior for the Philippines, was not available for comment.

Cenzon said the CICM was financing the break-up by providing the new "pious association" seed capital to start their new group. He could not say whether the breakaway group negotiated for the seed capital.

The bishop said he had not been part of the debates for years since his assumption into the vicariates, because Vatican rules restrict bishops to concerns within their areas of jurisdiction. But he remains a CICM member.

'We don't need to scrap SK, what we need are reforms'

THE SANGGUNIANG Kabataan elections will be held on July 15 as scheduled, but legislators are certain the next batch of young leaders will stir the youth body under a reformed structure come 2005.

Q&A

Proposals to scrap the youth councils were raised after the dismal turnout of registrants in the May 20-21 special SK registrations. Parallel bills have been set for deliberation in the Senate and the House of Representatives to pave the way for the dissolution of the youth body. In its stead, a youth representative shall be elected in every local council.

The moves fizzled out, however, when Congress broke for a recess from June 6 to July 22.

President Macapagal, no less, challenged the youth to prove their relevance in the face of mounting criticisms against the youth body. Ms Macapagal posed the challenge when she spoke before SK leaders during the recent SK National Congress in Iloilo.

*The INQUIRER's Ilocos Norte correspondent, **Cristina Arzadon**, asked **Richard Alvin Nalupta**, 26, president of the National Sangguniang Kabataan Federation, how he, along with SK leaders, is dealing with the imminent abolition of the SK. Excerpts:*

Q: Various quarters are not happy with the way the SK has developed. It seems that their solution is to either phase out the SK or scrap it altogether. What is your position on this?

A: We don't need to scrap the SK, what we need are reforms. We haven't been given the opportunity to undergo reforms. We have been pushing for an SK reform bill since six years ago. Under this proposal, we are seeking a congressional approval of a guideline on how the SK funds shall be spent: 10 percent to environmental concerns, 20 percent to livelihood, 20 percent to capability-building, 10 percent to anti-illegal drug campaign, and 40 percent to cover distinct needs of the youth in the villages.

We have been unfairly criticized for promoting projects such as basketball courts and beauty contests. In the first place, these are not the only programs that the SK has come up with. If they do not want us to adopt these kinds of projects, they must as well enact a law that prohibits these.

Q: How can the SK leaders protect themselves from the clutches of traditional politics?

A: We need to adopt an anti-political dynasty provision in the SK, The participation of youth leaders who are scions of politicians in the SK elections undermines attempts to distribute power from traditional political families.

Meanwhile, meddling of politicians—whether elected or appointed—in the youth elections must be made a criminal offense and a ground for their removal from office. Instead of putting the blame squarely on the youth, these politicians must be made responsible for corrupting the youth. We consider these ideas to play a vital role in the cleansing process of the youth body.

Q: You come from a political clan yourself—your father used to be the Ilocos Norte vice governor, while your mother was once a town mayor—how would you convince the public that you are not merely an extension of a political dynasty?

A: I found being a politician's son beneficial. But I used this affiliation to work to the advantage of the SK. This association can be used to influence agencies to enhance access to government programs or assistance.

The problem exists when the youth leader rides on the popularity of his family for his personal benefit.

Q: If youth leadership is one essential character of the SK, aren't the leaders provided enough training ground in school organizations, civic-oriented groups or the religious sector?

A: We should provide an alternative venue for the youth to exercise their leadership skills.

The SK is an alternative ground to the militant expression of opinions. While radical youth groups satisfy a specific purpose, the SK provides the youth a direct role in decision-making processes that go beyond being mere critics.

We, in the SK, contribute to the solution and become part of the solution. We do not intend to become mere recipients of government support; rather, we aspire to become partners in formulating the solution to the problems and contribute to their implementation.

NALUPTA

Q: The age bracket of qualified candidates is from 15-17 years old. Aren't they prematurely exposed to dirty politics?

A: We are not going after the root of the problem if we go by the perception that it is a mistake for the youth to participate in government. It is a common observation that you are corrupt when you are in government. The root of the problem is corruption in government, not youth participation in government.

Remove corruption from the picture, not the youth. We need to weed out corruption then allow the youth to participate. That would be the ideal working environment.

It's actually funny because some congressmen argued that the youth were too young to join politics and yet they further reduced the age bracket of qualified candidates from 15-21 to 15-17.

Secondly, we were never consulted about this. We were pushing for an SK membership to the 15-23 age group, while those running for office must be within the 18-23 bracket. By the time you turn 18, presumably you have started building a solid character and strong moral system to sustain idealism.

Ultimately, there's no standard age to be exposed to corruption. One cannot be too young or old enough to be dealing with corruption. Conversely, when the youth become older, then can they be involved in corrupt practices?

Q: How can we expect young leaders to assume the role of political managers or decide on fiscal matters that involve millions of pesos at such tender age?

A: At the very least, we need to bring back the original age qualification for youth candidates previously set from 15 to 21, if we cannot go further up to 18 to 23. At 18, at least one has a stronger character to take up important decisions.

We cite several SK leaders in various points in the country who have used their resources in diverse projects to meet the needs of their constituents and provide livelihood opportunities to their community as the same time.

An SK chair in a Mandaluyong village, for example, used their funds to build a physical therapy center where patients can avail themselves of this facility and services for free. The provincial SK in Tandag, Surigao del Sur, provided a seed capital to a youth club there to start a demonstration farm. Others contributed their funds to the village council to build roads.

Q: The turnout of registrants during the May special registration seems to indicate that they have lost interest in the SK elections?

A: That the registration during the May special enlistment is described to be a low turnout is no surprise. Our supposed membership under the 15-21 age group was estimated at 11 million. The membership shrunk to only 5 million when Republic Act 9164 took effect reducing qualified voters to the 15-17 age group.

Meanwhile, Commission on Elections Commissioner Resurrecion Borra made a sweeping statement on Day One of the May special registration that the turnout was low when the results of the December enlistment have yet to be released and finalized (during the time he made the remark).

Based on our own figures, we had a registration turnout of 3 million belonging to the 18-21 age group, while 1.7 million comprised of the 15-17 youth registrants. With the reduction of the age requirement, the 3 million registered youths under the 18-21 age group were disenfranchised. Our studies show that the youth running for public office belong to this age group.

Q: Did you see this coming? Were if not for the supposed dismal turnout during the May registration, the SK would not have courted public scrutiny?

A: That's true. In the December enlistment, we had a turnout of 45-50 percent out of the 11 million qualified registrants. This figure appears to be closely similar to the May registrations. But nobody raised a howl after the December registration.

Perhaps what the media and observers saw were halls teeming with youth registrants. In fact, we initiated the move to hold special registrations in the village level last May to give the youth residing in the remote villages the opportunity to enlist.

In other cities such as Davao, there were residents who needed to travel for two days to reach the city hall. Who would want to take that trip just to register especially if you do not intend to run for office? That was the reason behind efforts to lobby for a new registration at the village level.

Q: How will you convince the public that young leaders have what it takes to become partners of nation building?

A: We need to craft projects that will constantly respond to the needs of the youth and the community in general. We hope to be remembered as young leaders who chose to serve their fellow youth.

But without legislative action, we remain groping in the dark. Perhaps, our elders need to crack the whip and at the same time, inspire the youth to do what is right.

More importantly, elder politicians must set a good example for the young leaders to emulate. We need to correct the mistakes that they did in the past.

HOMETOWN
Snapshots

PMA 'goat' graduates, finally

THE CADET who could have prevented the Philippine Military Academy Banyuhay Class 2002 goat from being sent straight to the battlefield in Basilan finally graduated on June 4, almost three months after his whole class graduated in March.

First Class Cadet **Jun Aries Alagao**, 22, formally displaced newly commissioned Army 2nd Lt. **Gregory Inumpa Jr.** as class goat, when he received his military science degree from the PMA superintendent, Brig. Gen. **Edilberto Adan**, in a 15-minute ceremony that was devoid of pomp and grandeur.

In an INQUIRER story listing PMA Class 2002's top 10 graduates, it reported Alagao as the unofficial class goat.

During PMA Class 2002's graduation rites on March 24, Inumpa became the subject of a good-natured prank when President **Macapagal** ordered his posting to Basilan immediately after he was officially commissioned.

Alagao's graduation had hinged on his demerits over the unauthorized use of a cellular phone. He was wielding that same phone on Wednesday when the INQUIRER spoke to him.

"I feel a little relieved. I made good in my academics. I was ranked 50 in academics. It was my demerits in conduct, which brought me down, and (later out of) the graduating list. My whole family was here during the (March) graduation, expecting me to march with my *mistahs* (classmates)," Alagao, a native of Iligan City, said in Filipino. Alagao's phone violations netted him 45 demerits and 140 penalty counts. ***Vincent Cabreza***

Story worth retelling

TOURISM Secretary **Richard Gordon** never gets tired of retelling over and over again how Olongapo City rose from the ashes of widespread destruction when Mt. Pinatubo erupted in 1991.

Eleven years after the catastrophic event, Gordon, who was credited for bringing the city and later Subic back to their feet, still has vivid memories of the seemingly insurmountable challenge that he and his volunteer brigades passed with flying colors.

In fact, Gordon, a long-time mayor of Olongapo before serving as the first chair of the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority until 1998, drew applause from a United Nations-sponsored meet last February in Cancun, Mexico, for his role in reviving the city from the ashes of Pinatubo.

"The story of Subic is a riveting one—a story that tells itself, a story of a people determined to rise from the ashes of Pinatubo," he said.

"On the occasion of the 11th anniversary of this most-humbling but empowering act of Mother Nature, let me heap praises on our countrymen who have made this rebound possible.

"When Mt. Pinatubo struck us, we said, 'Fight on, Olongapo.' There was no one factor. There was no silver bullet. The most important were the leadership and the people who picked it up. We knew that we've won the battle when we realized our goal of having a sense of community, that sense of a nation."

Gordon said the local leadership had to rid Olongapo of "watchers, spectators, kibitzers, finger-pointers and blame-throwers."

"Those traits exorcised and replaced by the spirit of volunteerism, mighty Pinatubo did not stand a chance against us," he said.

PDI Central Luzon Desk

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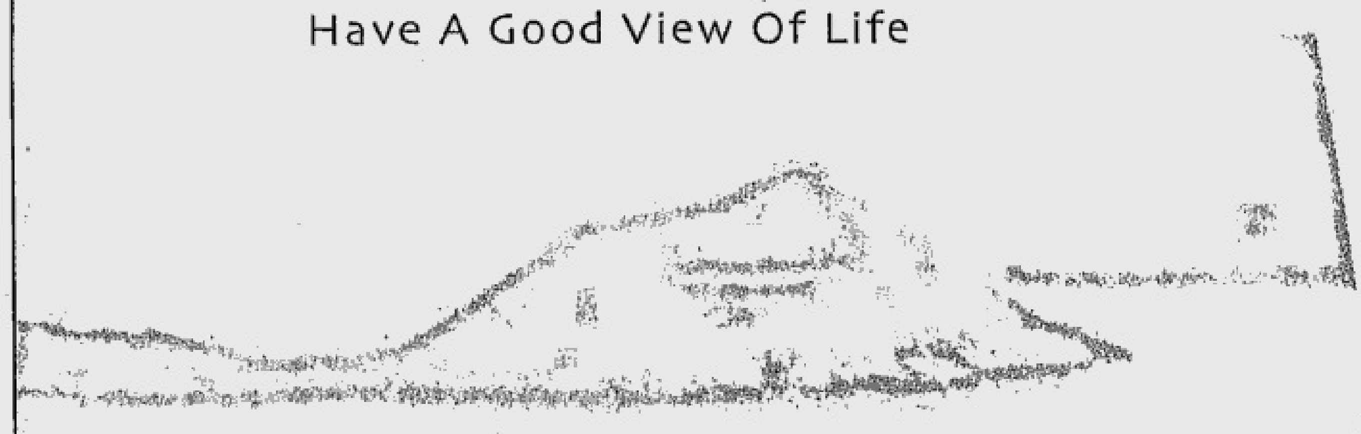

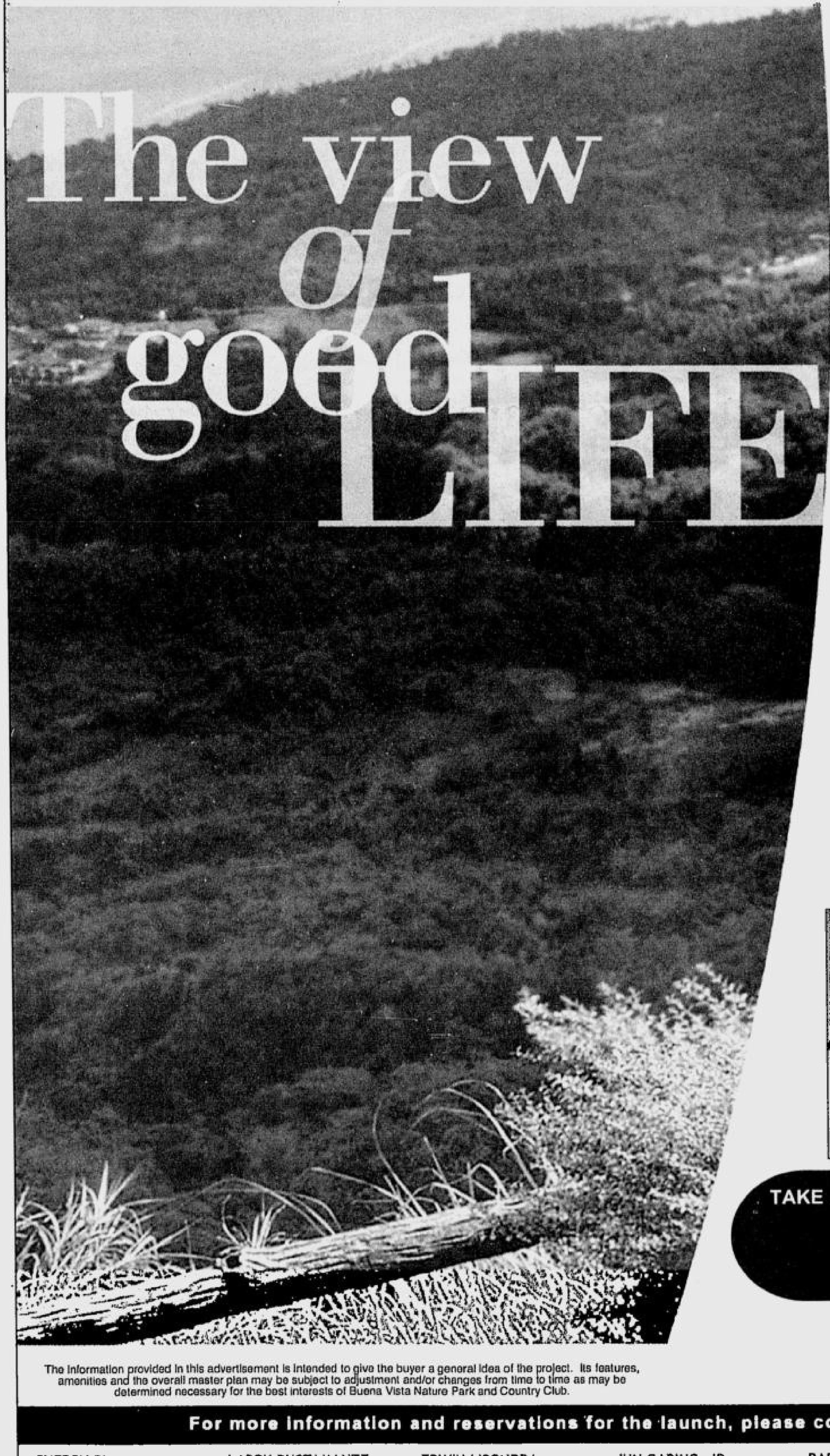

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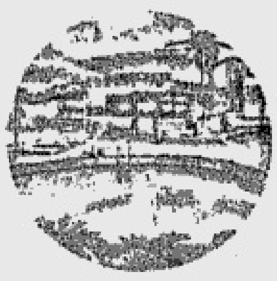

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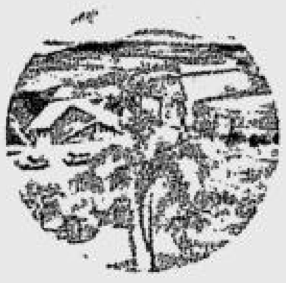

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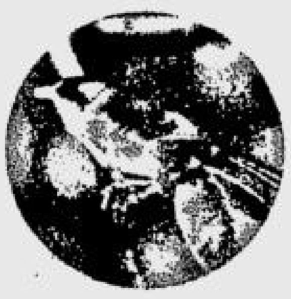

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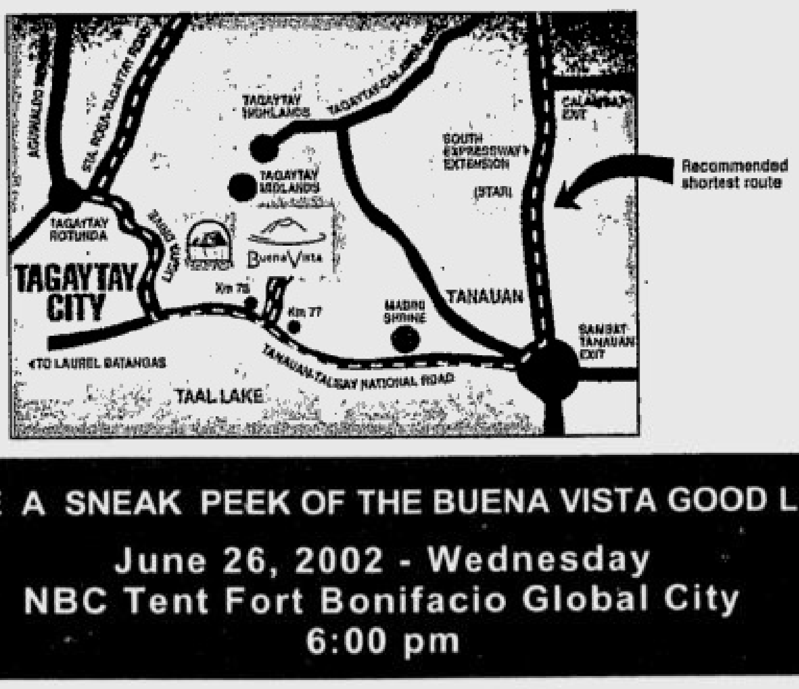

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19% of Pinoys want to leave, say RP hopeless

From page A1

Others say there are 7.4 million Filipinos, including migrants and undocumented overseas Filipino workers, scattered across the globe.

They have become a big source of foreign exchange for the Philippines. Last year, they remitted $6.2 billion into the country.

The "export" of Filipino labor, which is encouraged by the government, however, has its social costs. Families have been broken because of the long absence of the father or the mother. The country is also losing skilled workers.

Because of the big number of. Filipinos abroad, Congress is finalizing a bill to allow them to vote. They are also being offered dual citizenship.

Rural areas

Unlike residents of Metro Manila, only a small percentage of those living in rural Luzon want to leave.

Eleven percent of the respondents from rural Luzon agreed with the statement that the country was hopeless and that they would migrate if given the opportunity. A total of 74 percent disagreed and 15 percent were undecided.

Among the socioeconomic classes, the poorest and least educated Class E least agreed with the statement. Only 12 percent of Class E felt the country was hopeless while 65 percent still held out hope; 22 percent were undecided.

Information bias

Pulse Asia said those who have knowledge about life abroad—be it first-hand or from a family member—seemed to agree with the statement more strongly.

Of the 5 percent of Filipino adults, who said they had worked abroad, 29 percent felt the country was hopeless and wanted to leave. This is 10 percentage points higher than the national agreement rating of 19 percent.

Similarly, of the 18 percent of Filipino families, which have members who are either currently or previously abroad, 29 percent agreed with the statement.

Mole who gave tip on Sabaya gets ₱5M

From page A1

that is the more important thing."

Before Ibrahim received his check, the AFP spokesperson, Brig. Gen. Eduardo Purificacion, said: "He is a witness to how Sabaya was shot and killed."

Ibrahim, who wore a white shirt and denim pants, tried to hide his face by donning sunglasses and a cap. But just before he shook the President's hand, he took off his sunglasses and saluted.

Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes and Cimatu stood beside the President.

Warm praise

Ms Macapagal praised the civilian population for helping the military track down Sabaya, the self-styled spokesperson of the Abu Sayyaf terror group.

"This only goes to show that when the local populace supports the government, we are able to move forward," the President said.

She also had warm praise for the military operation on Friday, which led to the capture of four bandits and the presumed death of Sabaya and two others.

"The Battle of Sibuco Bay was a perfect example of perfect surveillance, intelligence fusion, perfect planning and perfect execution," she declared, eliciting wide smiles from Cimatu and Reyes.

"And I congratulate everyone involved in that," she added.

"I think now that Abu Sabaya is dead and the Abu Sayyaf has been largely neutralized."

"Of course, the troops have to continue to look for the other four leaders to make sure that the cancer doesn't grow again," she said.

She was referring to Abu Sayyaf leaders Hamsiraji Sali, Khadaffy Janjalani, Isnilon Hapilon and Abu Sulaiman.

Ibrahim's P5-million check is part of the government's P100-million reward program launched last year to get information about the Abu Sayyaf's top leaders.

The US Department of State has a similar program, offering as much as $5 million to anyone who can provide valuable information about Sabaya and four other bandit leaders.

DENNIS SABANGAN

THE NEW commander of the US 1st Special Forces Group Col. Joseph Smith (second from right) receives the flag from a US soldier during the change of command ceremonies at the Southern Command headquarters in Zamboanga City.

But yesterday, the US Embassy kept silent on whether Ibrahim would also qualify for the program.

Spokesperson Karen Kelly said the Rewards for Justice Program was confidential and no official word would come from the embassy regarding the identity of qualified informants.

Tipster's life

Cimatu said Ibrahim began as a courier for the Abu Sayyaf and was eventually admitted to Abu Sabaya's inner circle. Purificacion described Ibrahim's job as Sabaya's close-in security.

"He was courier when we recruited him as an informer . . . about a year ago," Purificacion said.

He said Ibrahim was with Sabaya's group when it fled Basilan for Zamboanga del Norte sometime in April with hostages Edibora Yap and Martin and Gracia Burnham.

After the June 7 encounter that left Yap and Martin Burnham dead, the group decided to flee to the coastal town of Sibuco.

Ibrahim was then directed by Sabaya to get a boat, which he did. Cimatu said that on the evening of June 20, Ibrahim somehow managed to send word to his "handler" that Sabaya planned to escape from Zamboanga del Norte by boat.

From the boat, Ibrahim supposedly made a call to the troops nearby to give their location.

"When the group of Sabaya arrived at the shoreline of Parang-Parang (Sibuco), Operation 'Black Archer' was launched," Purificacion said.

"Gardo made the call to the military elements in the vicinity and the (Special Warfare Group) of the Navy and the Marines moved in," he added.

The boat Sabaya used, named "Kingfisher," was monitored by government soldiers who decided to ram it while firing at Abu Sabaya.

Cimatu said Ibrahim and his family were still in danger.

After the Palace ceremony, Ibrahim was escorted by half a dozen men to a waiting Toyota Revo.

He gave short replies to reporters who tried to keep pace with him and his escorts. Asked what he would do with his money, he turned to one of his escorts and said, "*Sir, ano gagawin niyo sa pera*? (Sir, what will you do with the money?)"

When asked how he felt now that Sabaya is dead, he replied "*Patay na siya* (He's dead)."

Debate continues

Public speculation about Sabaya's fate continued to grow, five full days after he was reported to have drowned. Reyes, in a radio interview, hinted that the bandit's body may never be found.

"What we know is that the depth of the waters in the area is about 1,000 to 1,500 feet . . . Unfortunately we have not been able to recover it and we might not be able to recover the body, but we will stick to our statement," Reyes said on Monday.

Asked what he would do if Sabaya surfaced, Reyes said the military would just have to "accept their mistake" but until such time, they remain convinced that Sabaya is dead.

"We have to wait. If he surfaces and he shows up in person and (if) he is the real Abu Sabaya, then we will accept our mistake but until such time comes, I say again, we are convinced (he is dead)," he added.

But in the House, the chair of the House foreign relations committee appealed to the military to turn its attention to the remaining bandit leaders, primarily Janjalani and Commander Robot.

"I find it amusing that we spend so much money and resources on finding Sabaya's body," Rep. Apolinario Lozada said.

"Since the military claims he's dead, let's not debate about it anymore. He is a dead issue so let's move forward," said the Lakas congressman from Negros Occidental.

Sea current

Negros Oriental Gov. George Arnaiz said finding Sabaya's body had now become a "game of the sea current."

"This will now be a game of the sea current. If the current heads north, Abu Sabaya will land in Negros Oriental but if it heads south, like in the case of the Chinook helicopter crash, Abu Sabaya will be found in the southern part of the Philippines," Arnaiz said.

But Arnaiz himself remained unconvinced that Abu Sabaya was killed in a shootout with government troops last week in the waters off Zamboanga del Norte. "As a lawyer, I need evidence to show that Sabaya was really killed in that shootout," he said. ***With reports from Juliet Javellana and Norman Bordadora; Alex V. Pal, PDI Visayas Bureau; AFP***

Sad homecoming for 63 Filipinos deported by US

From page A1

their kin's predicament through telegrams.

The deportees started disembarking only after 3:50 p.m. and were received by representatives from the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) and the US Embassy.

Walking in batches of 10, many strode fast with their heads down, requesting DFA officials to ban photographers from the arrival area.

"They looked sad," said Elmer Cato, DFA consul in Central Luzon.

The Filipinos are among 314,000 foreign nationals who have ignored court orders to leave the United States and are being targeted under a US justice department program against illegal immigrants from countries where al-Qaida cells have allegedly been active.

The al-Qaida have links with the Abu Sayyaf, a bandit group that has been kidnapping Christians and foreigners in Mindanao.

DFA officials briefly allowed reporters to view the disembarking passengers but were not allowed to interview or to photograph them.

The names of the deportees were not announced.

Lawyer Ben Surto, a consular officer with the Philippine Embassy in Washington, accompanied the deportees.

Cato said at a press briefing that Surto had told him that the "returnees were handcuffed at certain portions of the flight."

He said the handcuffing, which the deportees had protested, was "part of standard operating procedures of the US immigration authority."

"This was done to ensure that the safety and security of the aircraft and the passengers would be the main consideration," Cato told reporters.

He said the Philippine Embassy in Washington had not complained about the handcuffs but had requested for "a more humane treatment."

"We were assured by INS officers on board that they were treated that way," he said.

Originally, only 62 Filipinos were due to be deported but one, more was added at the last minute, according to Cato.

The plane made a stopover at Wake Island midway between Hawaii and the Philippines.

Cato said most of the returnees were deported for violating US immigration laws, specifically for illegally entering the United States. Some have been charged with or convicted for criminal offenses.

Cato said it was a "routine occurrence" for US immigration to send back illegal aliens. He said, however, this was the first time that the INS had chartered a flight to bring in Filipino deportees.

"We were told that the reason for this was basically cost cutting. If they deported these returnees on an individual basis they would have to spend $10,000 per deportee," he said.

Most of the Filipinos were arrested in Kentucky, New Jersey, California, Texas and Arizona. They were rounded up over a certain period and held in various detention centers for an unspecified number of months.

Vice President Teofisto Guingona, concurrent foreign affairs secretary, said the Department of Foreign Affairs had made arrangements for the deportees and would provide telephone and travel expenses for their return to their homes in the country.

The foreign affairs, social welfare and health departments and the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration are going to turn the deportees over to their respective families after the processing of their documents.

Sef weeps in court during bail hearing

From page A1

foyer of the house in northern Sydney. That of his mother Loiva, 43, was found in the living room, and that of his sister Clodine, 18, in her bedroom upstairs.

They had been stabbed to death. The women's throats were also slashed and a racial slur was daubed on a wall of the house.

Gonzales called police to report the murders and later made a tearful televised plea to the public for information leading to the arrest of the killer.

Two weeks ago, however, the young Gonzales was arrested. Police have not released details of their investigation or what prompted them to arrest Gonzales.

Philippine Consul General Libran Cabactulan also told the INQUIRER from Sydney that Gonzales had yet to recover from emotional stress arising from the loss of his family and the murder charges filed against him.

Cabactulan said consulate officials asked Gonzales how he was coping.

"He told them that he was confident that he would be acquitted," the consul general said.

"When he was first brought to the remand center following his arrest, he could not eat or sleep. He is reportedly better now," Cabactulan added.

At the time of the murders, Gonzales prayed and pleaded for anyone with information on the "senseless act" to come forward.

"It is difficult to explain the love and ties in my family but if you were to picture the four corners of the world, in my world we were the four," he told a news conference at a police station at the time.

A lawyer and devout Catholic, Teddy Gonzales brought his family to Australia in 1991, and set up a successful legal practice specializing in immigration matters.

At a hearing earlier this month, Gonzales' lawyer said that police evidence against his client was circumstantial and that Gonzales had an alibi for a significant part of the evening of the murders. ***Reports by AP and Norman Bordadora***

Negros lawmaker says he and Assunta getting married

By Carla P. Gomez
PDI Visayas Bureau

BACOLOD CITY—He is 41 years old, a widower with two young children. She is a stunningly beautiful 19-year-old actress, standing several inches taller than he is.

But age, height or circumstances should not matter to two people in love.

So says Negros Occidental Rep. Julio "Jules" Ledesma IV, as he confirms reports that he and sexy young star Assunta da Rossi are getting married in January.

"I found a woman with a heart of gold refined by the fires of life. That she happens to be one of the most beautiful women in the world in my eyes is a bonus," Ledesma said in a telephone interview yesterday.

"What is inside of Assunta is 10 times more beautiful than what is on the outside," he said.

Ledesma said he first met Assunta, whom he described as "a jewel of a woman," last November during a taping of the "Bubble Gang" weekly comedy show.

They began meeting regularly in January, after which they have became inseparable, he said.

He did not consider the age gap a problem, as his mother Conchita Arenas was 17 and his father Charlie was 36 when they got married.

"And they remained true to their vow, till death do us part," he said.

His parents stayed married for 46 years, from 1950 until 1996, when his father died.

The Ledesmas, a wealthy Negrense clan, own shipping and real estate businesses as well as sugar plantations.

The congressman, who chairs the House ways and means committee, was widowed in February 2000 when his wife, Marivic Pek, died after a two-year battle with cancer.

They have two children—Cristina, 9, and Julio Carlos V, 5.

"They love Assunta and she loves them," said Ledesma.

It was not true that the 5'9" Assunta towered over him, protested the congressman who reportedly stands 5'2" tall.

"I am up to her cheekbones in height," he said.

"Besides, who cares about height, nobody questioned Nicole Kidman's being taller than Tom Cruise," said Ledesma.

Nor did he have any plans of running for senator or governor of Negros Occidental in 2004, the congressman said.

"If we get married in the third week of January and have a three-month honeymoon, I would not have time to campaign," he pointed out.

Asked why they had to wait until 2004 to get married, Ledesma said Assunta had movie projects that she had to finish.

And he wanted to prove also that he had no plans of using her to further his political career, he said.

The wedding will be in Manila.

ASSUNTA da Rossi: 'A woman with a heart of gold refined by the fires of life.'

JULIO "Jules" Ledesma IV: 'What is inside of Assunta is 10 times more beautiful . . .'

Erap, too, wants apology for Inquirer's FPJ story

WHAT FPJ did not ask for, his "Erap" is demanding.

A piqued Joseph Estrada yesterday said the INQUIRER owed him an apology for reporting that he was endorsing his close friend, movie star Fernando Poe Jr., as a contender for the next presidential election.

"You apologized to Mike Arroyo for the 'Panday versus Pandak' headline. You should also apologize to me because I came out like a sneak in my friend's eyes. It was embarrassing," the jailed ex-president told this reporter on the phone.

Speaking in Pilipino, the former actor also said he had since lost face before movie industry peers. "They are accusing me of pushing (FPJ) into the race without his knowledge and consent."

He was referring to the INQUIRER's June 17 banner story quoting an unnamed source as saying that he was quietly maneuvering Poe's candidacy in 2004.

"I never endorsed him (for public office)," Estrada stressed. "I never eyed him."

Interviewed for that story, Estrada did say he considered Poe fit to run for the post "if he could be convinced."

Slighted by the headline's reference to President Macapagal's height, First Gentleman Mike Arroyo had immediately demanded an apology. Poe merely issued a denial.

Because of that article, Estrada said, Poe had been "exposed to insults," as political pundits and the media began appraising his character and capacity for public office.

Saving the best for last, Estrada's parting shot was, "You had a congressman as source, not me. But you still put my name in the headline. Your paper has already made a lot of money using my name."

Estrada defends lawyer's outburst

"SHE couldn't control herself," Joseph Estrada yesterday said in defense of his former counsel Cleofe Verzola, who had drawn the Sandiganbayan's ire for interrupting his plunder case hearing on Monday.

Versola, attending the hearing as an observer, had verbally attacked one of the former president's court-appointed lawyers, questioning her credibility.

"She (Versola) saw the conspiracy to ensure my conviction," Estrada said in a phone interview.

A source said the ex-president's inner circle was not at all pleased with Verzola's outburst in court.

"It was counterproductive," the insider said. "Here we are saying that Estrada no longer recognized the proceedings, and she attends the hearing."

Verzola caused a commotion when she accused Irene Jurado, the ex-president's counsel de oficio, of being in cahoots with state prosecutors.

Talking to the press during a recess, Verzola said Jurado's way of grilling juetenggate witness Ma. Carmencita Itchon, tended to "clarify" rather than destroy Itchon's statements against Estrada.

Versola pointed out that Jurado's son, Cicero, was currently a state prosecutor under the Office of the Ombudsman, the lead agency prosecuting Estrada.

Jurado vehemently denied Verzola's insinuations, lashing back that Verzola was envious, and wanted to be named counsel de officio herself.

In a 30-minute closed-door session prompted by the incident, Verzola apologized to the justices—but not to Jurado.

Barredo, 90

MANUELA Barredo y Padgas, 90, of Malate and Sampaloc died last Friday, June 21. She was the last surviving sibling of the late Supreme Court Justice Antonio P. Barredo.

Ms Barredo graduated at the University of the Philippines College of Education in 1936. She later taught at the Our Lady of Loreto Academy, Arellano High School and Eulogio A. Rodiguez Institute of Science and Technology. She also served at the Supreme Court and Commission of Elections, where she retired in 1978.

Her body lies at the Oro Funeral Homes on G. Tuazon St., Sampaloc, interment is tentatively set on Thursday at the La Loma Cemetery.

Apacible, 34

JUANCHO Apacible, 34, died June 24. He is survived by his wife Bibsy, daughters Danna, Dindin, Daphnee, and son Don-don. His remains lie at the family residence in Tuy, Batangas.

Interment will be announced later.

Best values for those we value most.

Fares reduced even further!

ORIGIN: MANILA

DESTINATION	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA	ONE-WAY FARES			
						NORMAL	VALUE	PROMOTIONAL	2-DAY ADVANCE
CEBU	5J - 557	Daily	DC9	0130	0240	P2,899	P2,569	P1,999	P1,849
	5J - 559	Daily	DC9	0500	0610				
	5J - 561	Daily	DC9	0700	0810			-	
	5J - 563	Daily	DC9	0900	1010			-	
	5J - 565	Daily	DC9	1100	1210			-	
	5J - 567	Daily	DC9	1300	1410			-	
	5J - 569	Daily	DC9	1500	1610			-	
	5J - 571	Daily	DC9	1700	1810			-	
DAVAO	5J - 961	Daily	DC9	0500	0640	P3,667	P3,239	P2,288	P2,288
	5J - 963	**Daily**	**B757***	**0930**	**1110**	P4,039	P3,839	P3,667	-
	5J - 965	Daily	DC9	1320	1500	P3,667	P3,239	-	P2,288
*Cebu Class Available	5J - 967	Daily	DC9	1600	1740			P2,288	
CAGAYAN de ORO	5J - 381	Daily	DC9	0510	0635	P3,645	P3,239	P2,699	P2,349
	5J - 383	Daily	DC9	0930	1055				
TACLOBAN	5J - 651	Daily	DC9	0610	0720	P2,899	P2,569	-	P1,999
	5J - 655	Daily	DC9	1210	1320			-	
	5J - 657	Daily	DC9	1410	1520			-	
ILOILO	5J - 451	Daily	DC9	0500	0600	P2,779	P2,449	P1,649	P1,599
	5J - 455	Daily	DC9	0955	1055			-	
	5J - 459	Daily	DC9	1600	1700			-	
BACOLOD	5J - 473	Daily	DC9	0510	0610	P2,779	P2,449	-	P1,799
	5J - 475	Daily	DC9	1000	1100			-	
	5J - 479	Daily	DC9	1650	1750			-	
ZAMBOANGA	5J - 851	Daily	DC9	0620	0750	P3,667	P3,239	P2,179	-
ROXAS	5J - 373	Daily	DC9	0530	0630	P2,539	P2,199	-	P1,799
DUMAGUETE	5J - 627	Daily	DC9	1340	1450	P2,899	P2,569	P1,799	-
KALIBO	5J - 339	Daily	DC9	0900	0950	P2,899	P2,569	-	P1,999
BUTUAN	5J - 787	Daily	DC9	1030	1155	P3,645	P3,239	-	P2,349

ORIGIN: CEBU

DESTINATION	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA	ONE-WAY FARES			
						NORMAL	VALUE	PROMOTIONAL	2-DAY ADVANCE
MANILA	5J - 558	Daily	DC9	0500	0610	P2,899	P2,569	P1,999	P1,849
	5J - 560	Daily	DC9	0700	0810			-	
	5J - 562	Daily	DC9	0900	1010			-	
	5J - 564	Daily	DC9	1100	1210			-	
	5J - 566	Daily	DC9	1300	1410			-	
	5J - 568	Daily	DC9	1500	1610			-	
	5J - 570	Daily	DC9	1700	1810			-	
	5J - 572	Daily	DC9	1900	2010			P1,999	
DAVAO	5J - 593	Daily	DC9	0800	0850	P2,589	P2,249	P1,945	P1,649
	5J - 597	Daily	DC9	1450	1540				
ZAMBOANGA	5J - 431	Fri/Sun	DC9	1005	1100	P2,649	P2,319	-	P1,969
	5J - 433	M/ W/Th/ Sat	DC9	1100	1155				
ILOILO	5J - 164	Daily	DC9	1750	1825	P2,099	P1,759	P1,495	P1,249
BACOLOD	5J - 126	Daily	DC9	0810	0840	P1,879	P1,539	P1,295	P 999
CLARK	5J - 588	Tu/F/Sun	DC9	1100	1220	P2,995	P2,669	-	P2,199

ORIGIN: DAVAO

DESTINATION	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA	ONE-WAY FARES			
						NORMAL	VALUE	PROMOTIONAL	2-DAY ADVANCE
MANILA	5J - 962	Daily	DC9	0720	0900	P3,667	P3,239	P2,288	P2,288
	5J - 964	**Daily**	**B757***	**1210**	**1350**	P4,039	P3,839	P3,667	-
	5J - 966	Daily	DC9	1540	1720	P3,667	P3,239	-	-
*Cebu Class Available	5J - 968	Daily	DC9	1820	2000			P2,288	P2,288
CEBU	5J - 594	Daily	DC9	0930	1020	P2,589	P2,249	P1,945	P1,649
	5J - 598	Daily	DC9	1620	1710				
ILOILO --via Cebu	5J - 598/164	Daily	DC9	1620	1825	P3,645	P3,195	P2,595	P2,199
ZAMBOANGA	5J - 393	M/T/W/Th/Sat	DC9	1010	1110	P2,649	P2,319	-	P2,049

ORIGIN: BACOLOD

DESTINATION	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA	ONE-WAY FARES			
						NORMAL	VALUE	PROMOTIONAL	2-DAY ADVANCE
MANILA	5J - 474	Daily	DC9	0930	1030	P2,779	P2,449	-	P1,799
	5J - 476	Daily	DC9	1150	1250				
	5J - 480	Daily	DC9	1840	1940				
CEBU	5J - 125	Daily	DC9	0700	0730	P1,879	P1,539	P1,295	P 999

NOTES:
- All tickets are REFUNDABLE, REROUTABLE and UPGRADABLE to valid higher fare types. All issued tickets are NON-TRANSFERRABLE.
- Insurance surcharge of P250 per sector is applicable to all fare types.
- Child's fare and other regular discounts are applicable to Normal Fares only.
- All fares are subject to government approval and are exclusive of government tax.
- All fares and schedules are subject to change without prior notice.
- 2-Day Advance Purchase fares are subject to CAB approval and may change without prior notice.
- Cebu Promotional Value Fare valid on MNL/CEB 5J 557, 559 and CEB/MNL 5J 558, 572 only.
- Iloilo Promotional Value Fare valid on MNL/ILO 5J 451 and ILO/MNL 5J 462 only.
- Davao Promotional Value Fare valid on MNL/DVO 5J 961, 967 and DVO/MNL 5J 962, 968 only.

ORIGIN: BUTUAN

DESTINATION	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA	ONE-WAY FARES		
						NORMAL	VALUE	2-DAY ADVANCE
MANILA	5J - 788	Daily	DC9	1235	1400	P3,645	P3,239	P2,349

ORIGIN: ILOILO

DESTINATION	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA	ONE-WAY FARES			
						NORMAL	VALUE	PROMOTIONAL	2-DAY ADVANCE
MANILA	5J - 456	Daily	DC9	1135	1235	P2,779	P2,449	-	P1,599
	5J - 460	Daily	DC9	1740	1840			-	
	5J - 462	Daily	DC9	1905	2005			P1,649	
CEBU	5J - 161	Daily	DC9	0640	0715	P2,099	P1,759	P1,495	P1,249
DAVAO --via Cebu	5J - 161/593	Daily	DC9	0640	0850	P3,645	P3,195	P2,595	P2,199

ORIGIN: TACLOBAN

DESTINATION	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA	ONE-WAY FARES		
						NORMAL	VALUE	2-DAY ADVANCE
MANILA	5J - 652	Daily	DC9	0800	0910	P2,899	P2,569	P1,999
	5J - 656	Daily	DC9	1400	1510			
	5J - 658	Daily	DC9	1600	1710			

ORIGIN: CLARK

DESTINATION	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA	ONE-WAY FARES		
						NORMAL	VALUE	2-DAY ADVANCE
CEBU	5J - 589	Tu/F/Sun	DC9	1300	1420	P2,995	P2,669	P2,199

ORIGIN: ZAMBOANGA

DESTINATION	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA	ONE-WAY FARES			
						NORMAL	VALUE	PROMOTIONAL	2-DAY ADVANCE
MANILA	5J - 852	Daily	DC9	1150	1320	P3,667	P3,239	P2,179	-
CEBU	5J - 432	Fri/ Sun	DC9	0830	0925	P2,649	P2,319	-	P1,969
	5J - 434	M/W/Th/Sat	DC9	1235	1330			-	
DAVAO	5J - 394	M/T/W/Th/Sat	DC9	0830	0930	P2,649	P2,319		P2,049

ORIGIN: CAGAYAN DE ORO

DESTINATION	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA	ONE-WAY FARES			
						NORMAL	VALUE	PROMOTIONAL	2-DAY ADVANCE
MANILA	5J - 382	Daily	DC9	0715	0840	P3,645	P3,239	P2,699	P2,349
	5J - 384	Daily	DC9	1135	1300				

ORIGIN: ROXAS

DESTINATION	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA	ONE-WAY FARES		
						NORMAL	VALUE	2-DAY ADVANCE
MANILA	5J - 374	Daily	DC9	0710	0810	P2,539	P2,199	P1,799

ORIGIN: DUMAGUETE

DESTINATION	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA	ONE-WAY FARES			
						NORMAL	VALUE	PROMOTIONAL	2-DAY ADVANCE
MANILA	5J - 628	Daily	DC9	1530	1640	P2,899	P2,569	P1,799	-

ORIGIN: KALIBO

DESTINATION	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA	ONE-WAY FARES		
						NORMAL	VALUE	2-DAY ADVANCE
MANILA	5J - 340	Daily	DC9	1030	1120	P2,899	P2,569	P1,999

INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS

FROM	TO	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA
MANILA	HONGKONG	5J - 110	Daily	B757	0700	0800
		5J - 118	Daily	B757	1640	1840
HONG KONG	MANILA	5J - 111	Daily	B757	1000	1200
		5J - 119	Daily	B757	1940	2140
MANILA	SEOUL	5J - 194	M/F/Sun	B757	1340	1840
		5J - 1944	Th	B757	1340	1840
SEOUL	MANILA	5J - 195	M/F/Sun	B757	1950	2250
		5J - 1955	Th	B757	1950	2250

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CEBU PACIFIC
You above all.

43rd Founding Anniversary of the Province of Lanao del Sur

JUNE 28 - JULY 5, 2002

Strengthening the Quest for Harmony Through Sustainable Peace and Development

My warmest felicitations to the people and local officials of the Province of Lanao de Sur on the occasion of your 43rd Charter Day Anniversary.

Your strong devotion to the development of your community is a worthy example of the unity and leadership we need to attain social economic progress. Your concerned action to implement reforms in local government and your significant gains in this undertaking is heartening. May you [illegible] to build on your accomplishments [illegible]

May this event reinforce a stronger [illegible] in our continuing quest for peace [illegible] governance.

Let us join our hands towards fulfilling these noble objectives [illegible] intensify your good works closer to home so that your [illegible] reap the rewards of your labor. May this occasion also serve [illegible] our people.

Mabuhay [illegible]

GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO

First we reform, then we achieve...

MAMINTAL M. ADIONG, SR.
GOVERNOR

ASSALAMO ALAIKOM WARAHMOTOLLAHI WA BARAKATOHO!

2002 is a most weighty year for the province of Lanao del Sur. It heralds the 43rd Founding Anniversary. Sometimes, we all have the tendency to give up without trying.

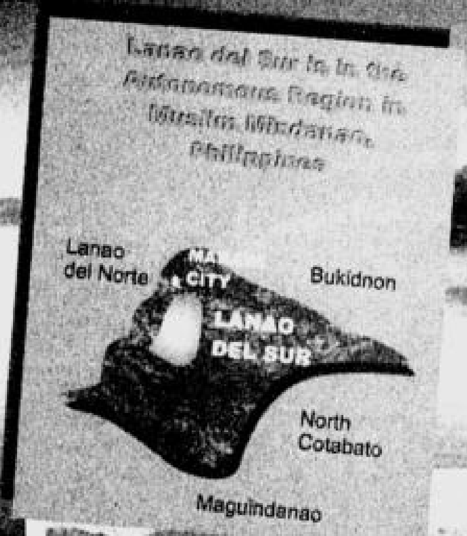
[illegible] from a fall but the challenge to rise even higher is the [illegible] The [illegible] of our work should not only pass the standards but [illegible] Our Quest Through Sustainable [illegible]

[illegible] the real winners? You are! I am!

[illegible] a total loser in the course of time. Make sure we are committed and honest.

[illegible] building our society in every little way we can. With hard work and relentless [illegible] tomorrow lead the other provinces.

Lanao del Sur


Lanao del Sur in in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, Philippines
Lanao del Norte
Marawi City
Bukidnon
LANAO DEL SUR
North Cotabato
Maguindanao

Brief History of Lanao del Sur

The province of Lanao del Sur has a long colorful history. In the pre-colonial era, Sultanate were the units of political administration, the Maranao Sultanate or Pat a Peangampong sa Ranao was composed of four principalia, namely: Masul, Unayan, Baloi and Bayabao. Though the Maranao Sultanate had unique features, it was comparable to the Sulu and Maguindanao Sultanates. The political power and domain of the Maranao Sultanate war recognized as an equal by the Maguindanao Sultanata.

The Maranaos fought against colonization in clashes known as the "Moro Wars". Bravely, they also withstood the canons and rifles of the Americans in the Battles of Bayang, Ganassi and Tugaya. Likewise, the Japanese failed to subdue the Maranao. This resistance to invaders earned for the Maranao its distinct political identity and affirmed its love for freedom.

The creation of the Province of Lanao dates back to the Philippine government's campaign for resettlement in Mindanao, Lanao became a province during the American era, by virtue of the Philippine Commission Act No. 787. Eventually, it broke up into two distinct and separate provinces of Lanao del Sur and Lanao del Norte on May 27, 1959 by virtue of Republic Act No. 2228. The bill as sponsored by Hon. Achmad Domocao Alonto, Sr. The respected senator is credited as the "Father of Lanao del Sur". The province was officially created on July 4, 1959 with twenty-five municipalities, including Dansalan (now Marawi City) as the capital town.

Lanao del Sur has undergone several administration and political changes. As a result of the negotiated settlement with the MNLF (Tripoli Agreement) during the Martial Law years, President Marcos issued P.D. No. 742 which included Lanao del Sur in the Autonomous Region XII. This region was expanded to include other provinces and named the Autonomous Region for Muslim Mindanao (ARMM). The constituents of Lanao del Sur affirmed the province inclusion in ARMM during the Plebiscite on Feb. 19, 1989. Although the Islamic City of Marawi, Capital City of Lanao del Sur refused to join the ARMM in said political exercise, it reconsidered its position recently.

The province was headed by eighteen (18) government officials who served as Chief Executive (Governor) either appointed or elected from 1945 to date, as follows:

1. Atty. Madki Alonto (1957 – 1967)
2. Atty. Linang Mandangan (1968-1971)
3. Princess Tarhata Alonto Lucman (1972-1975)
4. Gen. Mamarinta B. Lao PA (1975-1976)
5. Mohammad Ali Dimaporo (1976-1986)
6. Princess Tarhata Alonto Lucman (OIC) (1986-1987)
7. Atty. Saidamen Pangarungan (OIC) (1987-1988)
8. Acmad Tomawis (OIC) (1988)
9. Atty. Saidamen Pangarungan (1988-1992)
10. Atty. Omar B. Umpar (OIC) (1992)
11. Dr. Mahid M. Mutilan (1992-2001)
12. Engr. Mamintal M. Adiong Sr. (2001 to date)

Currently, Lanao del Sur composed of 38 municipalities including Sharief Alawi (municipality status pending plebiscite) and 1059 barangays. There are two congressional districts with component municipalities as follows:

First District City: Islamic City of Marawi
Municipalities:
1. Buadipuso
2. Bubong
3. Bumbaran
4. Ditsaan-Ramain
5. Kapai
6. Lumba-Bayabao
7. Maguing
8. Marantao
9. Masui
10. Mulondo
11. Piagapo
12. Poona-Bayabao
13. Saguiaran
14. Tagoloan
15. Tamparan
16. Taraka
17. Wao
18. Sharief Alawi (subject for plebiscite)

Second District
1. Bacolod Kalawi
2. Balabagan
3. Balindong
4. Bayang
5. Binidayan
6. Butig
7. Calanogas
8. Ganassi
9. Kapatagan
10. Lumbatan
11. Lumbayanague
12. Madalum
13. Madamba
14. Malabang
15. Marogong
16. Pagayawan
17. Pualas
18. Sultan Domalondong
19. Sultan Gumander
20. Tubaran
21. Tugaya

TOPOGRAPHY AND HYDROLOGICAL FEATURES

Lanao del Sur is deeply enclosed within the Bukidnon-Lanao highland areas with a series of plateaus, plains, highlands and basins, undulating hills and volcanoes and mountain ranges which serve as its natural boundaries from Maguindanao and North Cotabato along its south portion. A large lowland area called Maridgao Valley could be found towards the east near the Bukidnon boundary. Among the highest mountains are mount Ragang, Piagayongan and Magatoring which rise between 6,000 to 9,000 feet above sea level. Located at the heart of the province, Lake Lanao drains into Agus River which flows northward into Illana Bay. A nature's gift, Lake Lanao has multiple attributes: its panoramic beauty is tourist attraction, its waters are sources of power and food. While it provides the people with fresh water resources, Lake Lanao also assures Mindanao of an ample supply of hydroelectric power.

Climate

The thick and lush forests surrounding the province provides a natural shield against typhoon and floods. Lying hundreds of meters above sea level, the province has moderate climate which adds to its tourism potential.

People

As of May 1, 2002, the population of the province was recorded at 800,162 (25.6 percent of the total population of ARMM) with an annual growth of 3.42 percent. The population is predominantly Muslim comprising about 92.4 percent. Thus, the influence of Islam is strongly felt in the area. Literacy rate is 82.5 percent the highest among ARMM provinces.

The Maranaos are noted for their craftsmanship and artistry. This is evident in their colorful woven mats and hand-woven textiles, intricate brassware, wood carvings (also known as 'baor') and bamboo-lacub industry. These products which are the manifestation of the ethnic heritage of the Muslim of the south, have found lucrative markets here and abroad.

PHYSICAL FEATURES/CHARACTERISTICS OF

Accessibility

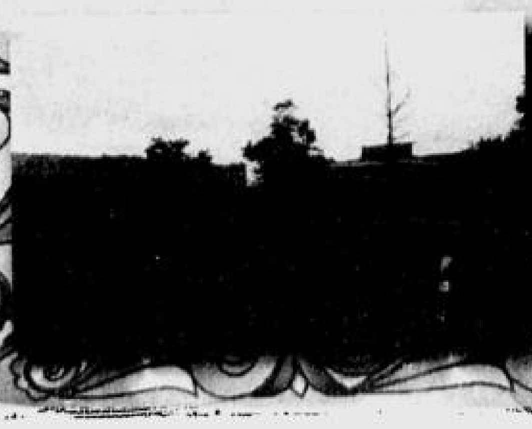
Along the Northwestern portion, the province of Lanao del Sur is accessible through the 36-kilometer Iligan City – Marawi City National Highway. The provinces is also about 137 kilometers from Cagayan de Oro City through a concrete raod travelled by many public transport. On the other hand, the Marawi City-Malabang-Cotabato City route, passing through the Narciso Ramos Highway, connects the province to Maguindanao and other southern Mindanao provinces.

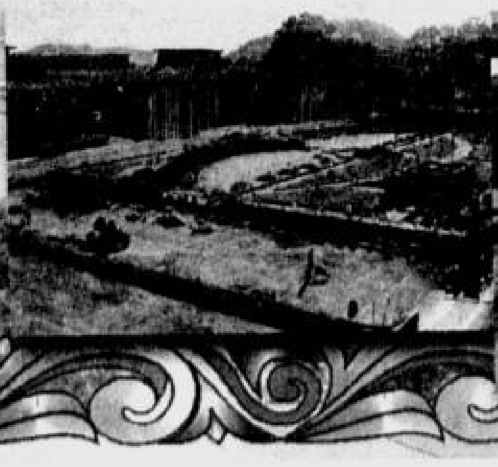
Geographic location

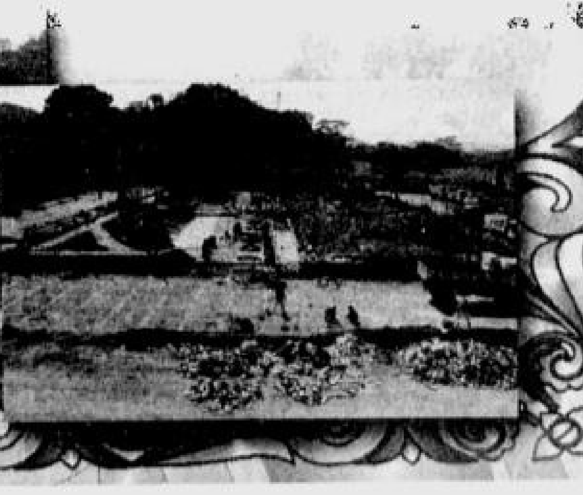
The province of Lanao del Sur is located at latitude 7Y 24 34 and nestled in the hinterland of Mindanao at an elevation of 702 meters above sea level. It occupies the extensive plateau of North Central Mindanao and surrounds the basin of Lake Lanao. It is bounded on the east by Bukidnon, on the south by Maguindanao and North Cotabato, on the west by Illana Bay and on the northwest by the province of Lanao del Norte.

Land area and soil type

The province has a total area of 12,051.85 square kilometers with 340.0 square kilometers water area composed of lakes and swamps. The municipality of Lumba-Bayabao occupies the biggest land area of 815.50 sq. km. While the municipality of Madamba has the smallest land area of 10.4 sq. m. Soil type of the province varies from the loam to upland soils. The loam type is suitable for the rice.







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(In exact order)

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SPORTS

Editor **Al S. Mendoza** ● *Assistant Editor* **Edwin M. Villanueva**

SPORTS ON TV **Compiled by Lorenzo Mangulat**

TENNIS: Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championships, Day #2 Highlights at 8 a.m. (r – 11 a.m.), Day 2, First Round at 12 noon (r), Day 3 London, Second Round at 7 p.m. on Star Sports

SOCCER: World Cup - Brazil vs Turkey at 7:30 p.m. on Dream 42.

Eagles seek 5th victory vs Amigos

GAMES TODAY (Cebu Coliseum)
3:30 p.m.—Cagayan vs Davao
6:00 p.m.—Negros vs Cebu

By Roy Luarca

Standings

Northern	W	L
Pampanga	2	1
LBC Batangas	2	2
Gilbey's O'gapo	2	2
Osaka P'sinan	1	2
Southern	**W**	**L**
P. Davao	4	0
Casino CDO	2	2
Cebuana L.	1	3
RCPI Negros	1	3

PROFESSIONAL Davao is on a roll, but Casino Cagayan de Oro has found the winning formula.

Expect a thriller when they collide at 3:30 p.m. today in the MBA National Conference at the Cebu Coliseum.

The Eagles have won their first four games and a repeat victory over the Amigos, whom they beat (97-87) on June 18, would push them farther ahead in the Southern Conference.

They can't afford to take the Amigos lightly this time, however. After dropping their first two games, the Amigos rebounded by besting the fancied RCPI Negros Slashers, 110-102, and Cebuana Lhuillier Gems, 100-94, respectively.

Coach Bong Go will again call on prized rookies Billy Mamaril and Jon Dan Salvador, recruits Cid White and Glenn Peter Yap and holdovers Peter June Simon, Bong Marata, Genesis Sasuman and Mike Manigo to carry the fight for the Eagles.

The Amigos shouldn't be pushovers though as Vic Ycasiano's wards have shown cohesion in their last two games.

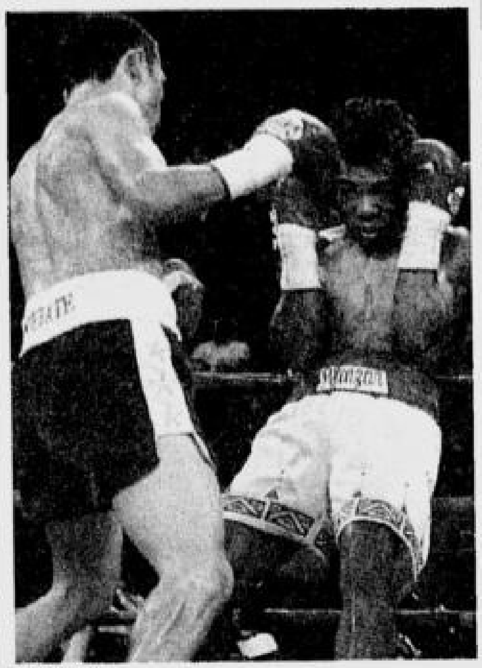
RCPI Negros and Cebuana Lhuillier, both on a tailspin at 1-3, tangle at 6 p.m. with the Gems eyeing a repeat of their 97-91 overtime conquest of the Slashers on June 18.

Meanwhile, the LBC Batangas Blades exacted revenge on the Gilbey's Olongapo Volunteers, 97-90, on Monday night to tie their victims at 2-2 in the Northern Conference.

Alex Compton fired 28 points, dished off eight assists, grabbed three rebounds, had three steals and one block as the Blades avenged their 95-92 defeat to the Volunteers in the inaugurals on June 15.

With Jeffrey Sanders joining Compton in the offensive end, the Blades pulled away, 65-40, in the third quarter.

Ateneo's aim: Win UAAP



DEAD

Panamanian boxer Pedro Alcazar (right), falls against the ropes during his 115-pound WBO title fight with Fernando Montiel at the MGM Grand Hotel-Casino in Las Vegas, on Saturday. Alcazar, who was stopped in the sixth round, collapsed and died in his hotel room Monday. Alcazar was 26 years old. AP

By Dennis U. Eroa

COACH Joel Banal knows that winning the PBL Chairman's Cup is just a piece in the puzzle to bring back Ateneo's glory days in the fabled UAAP basketball tournament.

"The ultimate aim is to win the UAAP title. Everybody knows that our stint in the PBL is part of our preparations for the coming UAAP season," said Banal, the unanimous choice of the PBL Press Corps as coach of the conference.

Playing like veterans, the youthful Blue Eagles finished off the older, more experienced Detergent Kings, 3-1, in the best-of-three championship on Monday at the Makati Coliseum.

Banal says that winning the Chairman's Cup means that Ateneo's preparations are on the right track. But he isn't in the mood to make bold predictions.

To accomplish its mission, Ateneo needs to hurdle bemedalled La Salle, a familiar and deadly adversary, and other teams hungry for recognition. The Green Archers are aiming for their fifth straight title, a feat that would break the four-peat record of University of Santo Tomas early in the '90s.

BANAL

Last year, the Green Archers broke the hearts of the Eagles by registering the four-peat at the Araneta Coliseum.

Ren Ren Ritualo, now a starter for FedEx, will no longer carry the scoring load for La Salle. The Green Archers, however, remain fearsome with the presence of Mike Cortez, Mark Cardona, Carlo Sharma, Joseph Yeo and Willy Wilson.

Banal, who is coaching Ateneo for the first time, declined to comment on the possibility of another Ateneo-La Salle showdown. He sounded confident, though, that his charges will be able to survive the UAAP grind.

"It was a good learning experience for the team. The PBL has helped us a lot with regards to adjustments, playing good defense, fighting to win and refusing to lose," Banal said.

While admitting that Ateneo-La Salle II is going to be a blockbuster, Banal stressed that other teams are capable of gate-crashing the year's biggest party.

"UST, UE, UP and FEU boast of solid lineups. Anything can happen," said Banal.

Ateneo lost Paolo Bugia and Magnum Membrere to injuries. But the Blue Eagles did not just roll and die.

As proof of his coaching savvy, Banal did not only draw the best from MVP Enrico Villanueva, Rich Alvarez, Larry Fonacier and Jec Chia. He molded the whole Ateneo team into a solid fighting machine boasting of a killer's instinct, something which was lacking last year.

"There was no shortcut. They worked hard throughout. I kept reminding them that God would finish the work that we have started," Banal said.

Banana growers backing RP Team

By Marc Anthony Reyes

THE PHILIPPINE Sports Commission is close to striking a deal with a big group of Davao City banana growers who expressed their intention to support the country's campaign in the forthcoming Busan Asian Games in South Korea from Sept. 29-Oct. 14.

PSC Chair Eric Buhain flew to Davao City yesterday to finalize the memorandum of agreement with the group.

The banana sponsorship is one of the fruits of the PSC's vigorous campaign to get the private sector involved in sports development which Buhain started after taking the PSC's helm early this year.

Meanwhile, Buhain ordered the Philippine Center for Sports Medicine to implement strict monitoring of the athletes' health and "make sure that our athletes bound for Busan are in 100 percent top shape."

The Asiad Task Force is also in full throttle, tackling all possible hitches in the country's preparations by setting up a series of meeting with national sports associations from July 1 to 5.

"We are gearing toward the second phase of our preparations. We have gone this far with only minor hitches and our calendar fits the athletes' schedule," said Task Force chief and Asiad chief of mission Tom Carrasco. "We are looking forward to a worry-free Asiad."

Among the issues that will be addressed are flight schedules of about 200 athletes and 100 officials, update on the athletes' recent performances, a check on equipment and supplies, coaches' technical programs and physical fitness.

NSAs in softball, soft tennis, taekwondo, wrestling and wushu will meet with the Task Force on July 1, while judo, karatedo, rowing, sailing and shooting are lined up for July 2.

Canoeing, cycling, fencing, golf and gymnastics will be up July 3, basketball, billiards, bowling and boxing take their turn July 4 before athletics, swimming, archery and equestrian consult the Task Force July 5.

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Atienza tops Supercross

HOMETOWN favorite Bembie Atienza, Lipa's Marlon Trivino and San Pablo's Joseph Tocino scored impressive wins in the MP Turbo Supercross Series last Sunday at the Moises Escueta Sports Complex in Tiaong, Quezon.

Host city's Atienza managed enough strength to rule the last moto of the Rated MX Open amid the deafening cheers of the huge crowd. Atienza fought off the challange of Mandaluyong's Gerald Fronda to prevail.

Batangas was ably represented by the Lipa Moto Club with Trivino taking the Beginner's MX Open finishing 1-2 in both motos and edging Fronda for top honors with his 3-1 finish. Batangas' Boying Ramirez secured third place.

The event was held in cooperation with Tiaong Mayor Leleng Umali, lawyer Ed Escueta, Ado Perez and local project director Chito Beech.

The Namssa-sanctioned invitational motocross series is supported by zed, San Miguel Beer, Gulf Oil, Dickies, BLTBCo, Fil Estate Dev't Co., Yehey.com, Rainforest Mineral Water, Gatorade, Gandour Candies and Daye-FMC Motorcycles.

"The event was very successful with a lot of people watching it," said MP Turbo's head Mike Potenciano. "The Supercross series is fast becoming a popular event with the local and beginners alike. The local riders are now looking forward to all the remaining rounds of the series."

Are PBA refs on the take?

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo

LAST Sunday, basketball fans—most of them at ringside—cried in outrage, blaming PBA referees for a lousy job during the Batang Red Bull-Alaska Milk encounter at the Big Dome which the Thunder won, 85-77, giving coach Yeng Guiao's defending champions their second straight win in this import-laden Philippine Basketball Association Commissioner's Cup.

The fans were angry at the referees because they felt cheated, especially in the first half, when the whistle-totters made several questionable calls against Batang Red Bull. But they added that—in fairness to Alaska—coach Tim Cone's Aces had nothing to do with the whole thing nor did they benefit from the officiating. Still, the biased officiating raised this intriguing question: Are the PBA refs on the take?

While this allegation is hard to prove, Commissioner Jun Bernardino is well-advised to address this nagging problem of biased officiating because it is one reason why the fans are no longer patronizing the country's once premier professional league. Jun B should punish, better still, fire those referees who are robbing the paying public blind with their one-sided officiating. It is his duty and moral obligation to the public and the team owners to institute reforms immediately to save the beleaguered league from falling apart.

"Nowadays, the teams are playing with unmatched intensity because the results carry much weight," said a loyal follower of the league. "Therefore, in fairness to the public and the PBA team owners, the referees should always be spotlessly clean and honest."

Speaking of the PBA, I'm glad to know that the pro league has finally reached a compromise agreement with the Games and Amusements Board to settle the balance of its long-standing obligation to the GAB representing the three percent share of accumulated income from the radio/television coverage of PBA games dating back to 1999. I gathered that the PBA recently turned over to the GAB a manager's check worth P572,000, leaving a balance of P800,000 which Jun B and his staff promised to pay in full until December this year. In 1999 when I first wrote about it, the total obligation was P4.8 million.

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WORLD POOL WEBSITE. Matchroom Sport, promoters of the WPA World Pool Championship in Cardiff, announced recently that official online home of the 2002 World Pool Championship on July 13-21 at the Cardiff International Arena is www.worldpoolchampionship.com.

Baseball clinic up

THE PALAU Island Major League baseball team arrived yesterday for a series of exhibition matches against local teams at the Rizal Memorial ball park in Manila even as United States Major League coaches David Bonebreak and Oscar Marcelino start a baseball clinic tomorrow in Lanao del Norte.

The twin baseball events are just part of the Philippine Amateur Baseball Association's thrust to promote the sport not only in Metro Manila but in the provinces as well.

The 24-man Palau delegation, headed by Palau Olympic Committee president and minister of community and cultural affairs Alexander Merep, will start its stint this Friday with a match against the national team which will see action in the Busan Asian Games in September.

Bonebreak and Marcelino will conduct the clinic starting tomorrow until June 30 at the Mindanao Sports and Civic Center.

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WORLD CUP FINALIST

Germany ends Korea run

SEOUL—Germany ended South Korea's dream run at the World Cup, beating the previously undefeated co-host, 1-0, on Tuesday to book a place in the final for a record seventh time.

Michael Ballack scored the winner in the 75th minute after striker Oliver Neuville broke down the right and cut the ball back for the Bayern Munich-bound midfielder who fired his first shot with his right foot straight at goalkeeper Lee Woon-jae, but then drilled in the rebound with his left from the edge of the six-yard box.

Four minutes earlier, Ballack was shown a yellow card for tripping Lee Chun-soo on the edge of the German area. It meant he would miss the final after picking up two cards since the group stages.

Germany will face the winner of the Brazil vs Turkey semifinal on Sunday in Yokohama, Japan.

The South Koreans, the first Asian team to make the semifinals of a World Cup, had the better of the opening stages with some free-flowing soccer.

The best chance fell to South Korea in the 8th minute when a right-wing cross from Cha Doo-ri was met first time by Lee, who brought a fine one-handed save from Oliver Kahn.

Virtually every spectator in the ground was wearing South Korea's colors, turning the stadium into a screaming red cauldron. Non-stop chants of "Dae Han Min Guk" - "Republic of Korea" - and "Pilseung Korea" - "Victory Korea" - resounded throughout the game.

Fans at one end of the stadium held up red and white placards to read, in Korean characters: "Dreams come true." The message spread across upper and lower decks of the stadium.

Germany, though, had an immediate chance to silence the passionate home crowd in only the second minute, but Carsten Ramelow's left-foot drive, following a break down the right, went straight at goalkeeper Lee.

The Germans found themselves pegged deep in their half, but launched some effective counterattacks.

In the 17th minute, Oliver Neuville, finding space between two South Korean defenders on the edge of the box, put a volley straight at the 'keeper.

Seven minutes later, five-goal Miroslav Klose appealed for a penalty after falling in the box, but Swiss referee Urs Meier rightly waved play on.

The South Koreans repelled Germany's attacks with some fine defending, their midfielders racing back to protect the back four.

In the 53rd minute, Torsten Frings had to make a fine sliding tackle to take the ball off the feet of Cha Doo-ri who was breaking dangerously through the middle.

Hiddink then made a double switch, bringing on Ahn Jung-hwan - the golden goal hero against Italy - to replace veteran striker Hwang Sun-hong. Defender Lee Min-sung came on for Choi Jin-cheul.

In the 63rd, Miroslav Klose tried a header, but failed to get any power on it.

Klose tried to volley a pass from Ramelow, but it sailed high and wide.

Coach Rudi Voeller took off Klose after 70 minutes and brought on Oliver Bierhoff.

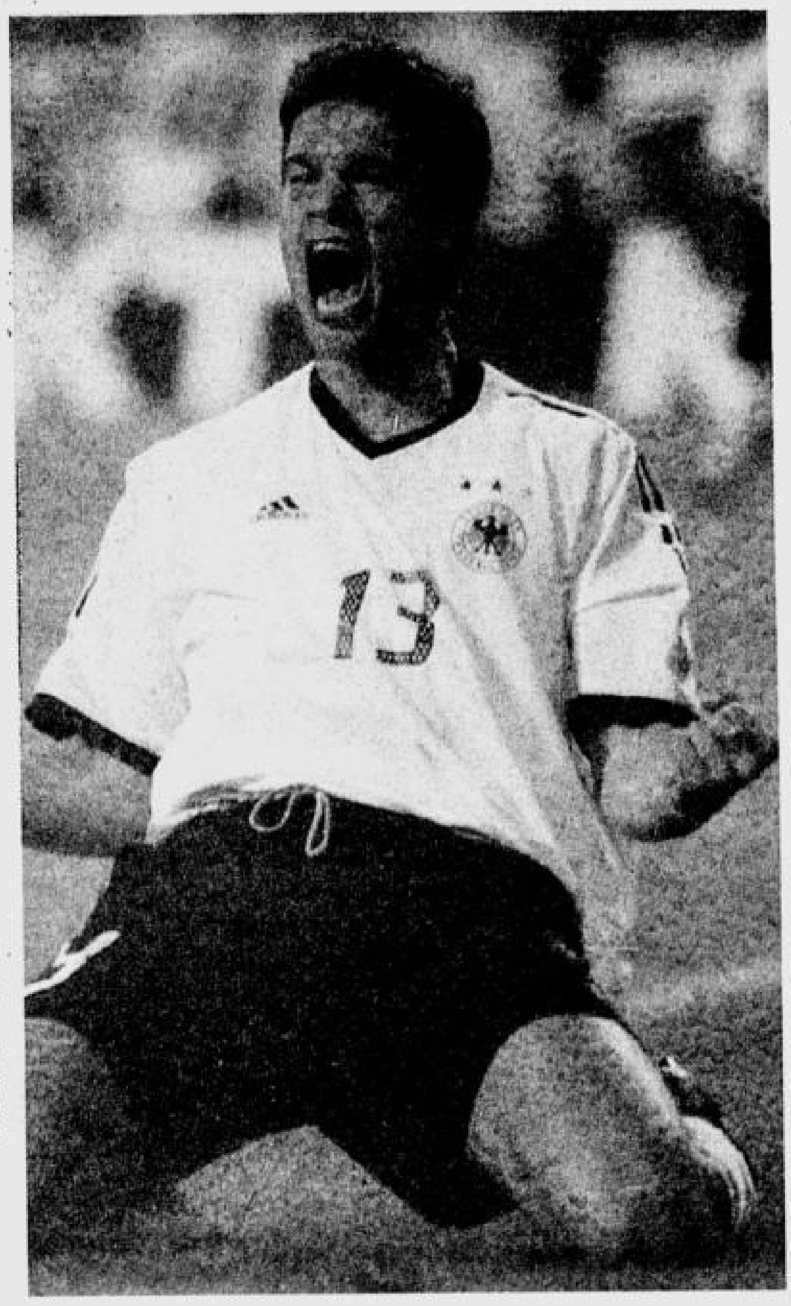
Ballack's goal took the sting out of the home crowd and South Korea's attacks couldn't break down Germany's tough back four.

South Korea had a chance in injury time but Park Ji-sung fired a shot from the edge of the area wildly over.

At the final whistle, the German players jumped for joy, with replacement players running on to the field. Some of the South Koreans slumped to their knees. One was flat on his back, arms stretched out.

South Korea's Dutch coach Guus Hiddink started with regular strikers Ahn and Seol Ki-hyeon on the bench. Between them, they had scored three of South Korea's six goals in the tournament.

Veteran striker in his fourth World Cup, started up front for the Koreans alongside German-born forward Cha, son of legendary Korean striker Cha Bum-kun. *AP*



BALLACK celebrates after scoring Germany's winning goal against South Korea during their semifinal match Tuesday night in Seoul. But he will miss the final on June 30 after incurring two yellow cards. REUTERS

Hat trick does it

NONONG Araneta scored a hat trick last Sunday and helped Athletic de Larrauri retain the Family Futbol Cup with a strenuous win over AC Server (3-4 penalties, 2-1 and 3-1, respectively).

With footballing instincts still on synch, Nonong combined wonderfully with the Larrauri clan to cut through the Server defenses time and again. The former "Mr. Football" brought inspiration and motivation wherever he set foot on the pitch. It was a good day for the cup holders as it was for Family Futbol.

Leo, Nacho, Itos and Striker Santos controlled the offensive field for Athletic while Jay and Joey Server, Raffy Ladao and Dan Aoki battled thoroughly to keep the Servers in the meet.

UC trio pockets Nike plum

CEBU CITY—University of Cebu used its height advantage to defeat University of San Jose Recoletos, 11-5, to win the Nike 3 on 3 Cebu leg championship before a huge crowd at the SM City-Cebu last weekend.

Allen Abayata, Brian Berbesada, Eugene Bal Luchavez and John Ian Nicolasora overwhelmed the USJR bets, who toppled defending Cebu leg titlist University of the Visayas, 12-10, in the semifinals.

"Our strength lies in the zone area, where our tall players dominated the opposing team. Hopefully, we can carry the momentum of this victory all the way to the National Finals," said UC coach Joaquin "Jake" Rojas, a former Toyota cager, who used to back up Francis Arnaiz during the early years of the PBA.

UC, which got a scare from Salazar Institute of Technology in the semis before pulling off a scrambling 11-10 triumph, will join Bacolod qualifier University of St. La Salle in the national finals to be held in Manila in August.

Major sponsor of the Nike 3 on 3 is High Endurance by Old Spice while participating sponsors are Gatorade, Absolute Drinking Water, SM Supermalls, SM Department Store, Toby's, Olympic Village, Olympic World and Royal Sporting House.

Nike Philippines Sports Marketing Manager Auty Villarama and Marketing Coordinator Rely San Agustin presented the medals, Nike bags and apparel to the members of the University of Cebu.

Purefoods junks Ginebra

By June Navarro

GAME TOMORROW (Cuneta Astrodome)
7 p.m.—Sta. Lucia vs Talk N Text

PUREFOODS drew tremendous firepower from Gabe Muoneke and Kelvin Price as it smothered Barangay Ginebra, 83-78, last night in the PBA Commissioner's Cup at the Cuneta Astrodome.

Muoneke, pacing himself to last for at least 40 minutes, went berserk in the third period, getting away with 17 of his 36 points as the Hotdogs demolished the Kings with precision.

When Muoneke went short of ammunition, the stocky 6-foot-6 Price then took command of driving the final nail on the Kings' coffin.

Price, seeing action for the second straight conference for Purefoods, grabbed a string of huge offensive rebounds and banged in seven crucial baskets down the stretch as the Hotdogs scored their first win after a dismal start last week.

The Hotdogs, who got stunned and reversed by the wily Sta. Lucia Realtors, 90-75, at the start of their mid-season campaign, created a three-way logjam at 1-1 together with Alaska and the Selecta-RP Team.

With imports Silas Mills and Ben Davis saddled by fouls early, the Kings were left fighting with one leg shorter than the other, leading to their second setback in three outings.

Bouncing back from a subpar performance against the Realtors, Price came up with 19 points and hauled down 25 rebounds, eclipsing the 23 caroms registered by San Miguel import Mario Bennett last conference.

It was also the most number of rebounds grabbed since San Miguel's Nate Johnson had 25 during the Beermen's 92-73 victory over Mobiline in the same conference last year.

"We got a big lift from our imports. Gabe did a good job of pacing himself, taking it easy in the first half and then exploding in the third quarter. And Kelvin? He's always there whenever Gabe needed help," said Purefoods coach Ryan Gregorio.

But more than anything else, it was a victory that would give the Hotdogs a needed push in their bid for a second straight championship.

"Although we won this match we're still far away from our usual game. I guess we needed another win like this for us to put us on track for another championship," said Gregorio, the man who authored the Hotdogs' title victory last conference.

Scores:

PUREFOODS 83—Muoneke 36, Price 19, Evangelista 9, Patrimonio 6, Raymundo 6, Magsanoc 5, Mendiola 2, Victoria 0.

GINEBRA 78—Mills 16, Davis 15, David 14, Limpot 12, Caguioa 10, Magtulis 8, Helterbrand 3, Wallkvist 0, Basco 0, Piodo 0.

Quarters: 16-28, 39-42, 67-57, 83-78

adidas Streetball features top Metro Manila teams

METRO Manila's leading teams see action in the adidas Streetball Challenge 2002 at the SM Megamall in Mandaluyong City on June 29-30.

Also competing in the two-day hoop extravaganza are teams from nearby provinces. The winners earn the right to represent Metro Manila to the adidas Streetball Challenge 2002 National Finals on Aug. 17-18 in Cebu City.

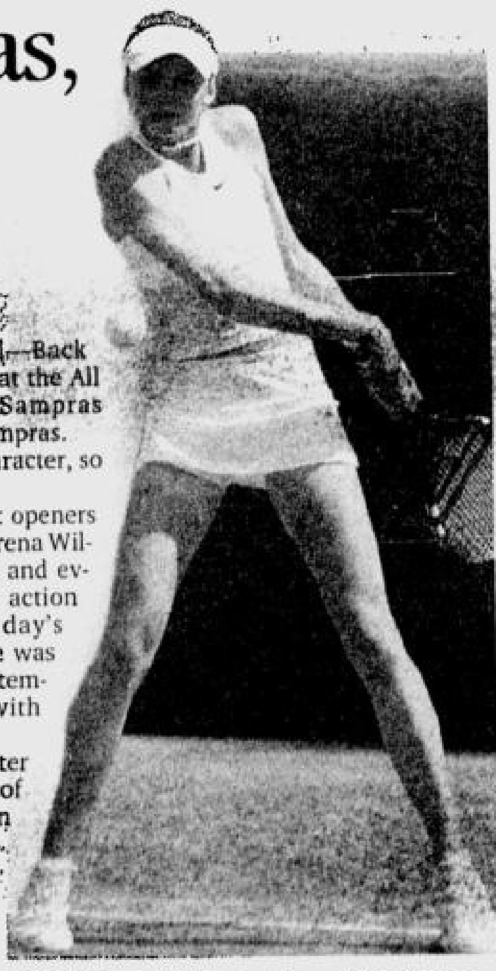
Aside from winning cash prizes, trophies and adidas products, the national champions will don the country's colors in the Asian Streetball Finals slated in August in Shanghai, China.

After Metro Manila, the event will go to Davao City on July 13-14 for the Mindanao clashes.

Gracing the hoopfest sponsored by Growee and WGA Zip in cooperation with Gatorade, Absolute pure distilled drinking water, Zed, Taylormade Golf, Salomon, Magic 89.8 dwTM and 99.5 RT are adidas endorsers Danny Ildefonso, Kenneth Duremdes, Johnny Abbarientos, Val David, Rudy Hatfield, Dondon Hontiveros. Vergel Meneses, Ren-Ren Ritualo, Rey Evangelista, Richard Yee, Roger Yap, Gerard Francisco, Vic Pablo and Poch Juiño.

Interested parties may contact Team Ventures at 5225953 and 4009745.

Sampras, Agassi prevail



SEXIEST. Danila Hantuchova of the Slovak Republic has dislodged Russia's Anna Kournikova as the sexiest woman in tennis according to British magazine Ace. Hantuchova beat Spain's Cristina Torrens yesterday, 6-3, 6-2, in Wimbledon. REUTERS

WIMBLEDON, England—Back home on Center Court at the All England Club, Pete Sampras served just like Pete Sampras.

And, rather out of character, so did Andre Agassi.

Both won straight-set openers at Wimbledon, as did Serena Williams, Jennifer Capriati and every other top player in action Monday. Indeed, the day's only significant surprise was the beautiful weather: temperatures in the 70s with nary a rain cloud.

Casting aside the better part of two years' worth of poor play and a rib strain that put his participation in doubt, seven-time champion Sampras swatted 27 aces and 40 other winners in defeating Martin Lee of Britain 6-3, 7-6 (1), 6-3.

Sampras hasn't won a title since Wimbledon in 2000, a drought of 29 tournaments, and entered with a 16-13 match record this year, including a French Open first-round loss.

Once again, though, grass gave his game a lift.

"You step out on Center Court, it's like Mecca out there," said Sampras, who at No. 6 has his lowest seeding here in 11 years. "The US Open, French Open–those are great events, but Center Court at Wimbledon, there's something very special whenever you step out there.

"I feel like I kind of came back home today."

Others winning comfortably included No. 2-seeded Marat Safin, No. 5 Yevgeny Kafelnikov, and No. 7 Jelena Dokic. US players went 13-5, with No. 11 Andy Roddick and No. 29 James Blake advancing when opponents quit, citing illness, while trailing.

Adding to the predictability was Anna Kournikova's fourth straight first-round exit from a tourney. *AP*

Manila Jockey Club posts all-time mark

THE MANILA Jockey Club posted an all-time sales record of more than P44.72 million for its marquee Gran Copa de Manila race card on Monday to once again highlight the stature of the annual "Araw ng Maynila" racing classic as the undisputed top grossing event in local horse racing history.

The new record gross sales easily eclipsed the previous all-time record of P41.59 million set during last year's staging of the popular blue-ribbon event, notwithstanding the fact that only 14 races were actually run in last Monday's card compared to 15 races staged last year.

"We are truly overwhelmed and thankful for the tremendous support given by the public to this year's Gran Copa festivities, which once again became venue to a new record which went beyond our earlier expectations. To them, we share the honor of celebrating this great day in local horse racing," said MJCI President and Chief Executive, lawyer Alfonso R. Reyno Jr.

Last Monday's "Gran Copa de Manila" day was actually the high point of MJCI's six-day Gran Copa Racing Festival which generated total gross sales of more than P171.4 million, undoubtedly the highest grossing race festival ever staged in the country.

Following its highly successful Gran Copa racing carnival, MJCI is once again set to host five more days of racing starting today through Sunday. Weekday race schedules will feature twilight (evening) races while its weekend schedule will start promptly at early afternoon.

Trolling, not trawling

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

HERE'S a gem I will treasure forever. It came from Percival B. Padua of 20 Union St., San Jose, Navotas, Metro Manila. In his letter previous to the one below, he correctly pointed out the real meaning of "whammy" for which I was very grateful for. But this one takes the cake. Read on.

"I have to read your Sunday column (Salty Sea, May 5, 2002) three times just to be sure that my faltering vision and stored knowledge could still be relied upon to distill what the ordinary sports reader would have ignored probably out of plain nonchalance or unfamiliarity with an "elitist" sport.

"I have no intention doubting your competence and versatility as Sports Editor but trawl fishing, to my knowledge, is not the appropriate method for catching pelagic game species like dorado, swordfish, barracuda, tarpon, etc. The right fishing gear is troll, described technically as a lure or a line pulled with its lure and hook. Trawl, on the other hand, is a large conical net dragged along the sea bottom in gathering demersal fish or other marine forms.

"Incidentally, I am a graduate of the defunct Philippine Institute of Fisheries Technology, reborn as UP in the Visayas, now located in Miagao, Iloilo. As a Fish Capture major, I feel I owe it to my technical background to shed a little light on this minor inadvertence by a motivated angler and respected sports columnist.

"When you mentioned Hemingway's The Old Man and The Sea, it impressed me that it's not only bangus Dagupan that you can crow about with robust abandon but your undiminished passion (too).

"Just a word, though—no San Mig, light or regular, before bagging your target quota for the day. Even Hemingway stayed away from the booze until he was inside his favorite pub! In Havana, of course, not Kilimanjaro.

"Thank you for the opportunity of exchanging information with you on an interesting subject and more power to your column as a vehicle for a vast array of sports information."

■

Thank you, sir.

I've known about my mistake a day after that column came out. A book bought by my wife about fishing gave me away. The book defines troll as "(verb) To trail a bait behind a moving boat. (noun) Legendary creature thought to dwell in secluded spots in rivers from which it lures people to their doom."

I knew immediately that the kind of fishing I did in San Vicente, Sta. Ana, Cagayan, was trolling—not trawling.

I had been wanting to make the rectification the morning after the wifey gave me the book. But, as experience always tells me, procrastination leads you nowhere. The plan to print the rectification got overtaken by events. I apologize, sir.

One clarification, though. I never received a copy of your letter, which you addressed to our Opinion Editor. I got hold of it only the other day (Monday); it was sent to me by Raul Palabrica, our Reader's Advocate. Also, you could not have written it on "March 8, 2002" as the column in question came out on May 5, 2002. I understand. We all make mistakes, *di ba*?

Had I gotten hold of your letter, I would have immediately printed it—and escaped your ire and likewise helped me kill the habit of procrastination.

I hope I'm wrong if I say you sounded angry in another letter you sent to our Reader's Advocate on June 19. But if you are, I won't take it against you. It has been—still is—my habit to respect an opinion that contradicts mine. Nothing personal. As proof, may I invite you to have beer with me at your own convenient time? With trolling, if not "Troll the legendary creature," as our main *pulutan*? Light or regular?

Your choice.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Gamo loses; Salazar advances to finals vs Korea

By Recah Trinidad

SEREMBAN, Malaysia—Two Filipino boxers blazed their way into the finals of the Asian Amateur Boxing Championship on Monday but only one between the two brilliant sons of poor parents from Negros was given the nod to go for the gold medal.

The lucky guy was light flyweight Lhyven Salazar, a sweet-punching sidewalk vendor's son from Bacolod who outclassed Myanmar's Kyaw Swar Aung to arrange a gold medal duel yesterday with peppery Hong Moo Won of South Korea.

Salazar, 23, was a delight to watch as he dominated his shorter and visibly inexperienced foe en route to a 35-14 victory.

Salazar's masterful display was next surpassed by bantamweight Ferdie Gamo, who clearly battered and outpunched favored Khidirov Bekzod of Uzbekistan for four solid rounds.

Sensational fight

But, to the dismay of the RP delegation and the sparse Malay crowd at the Paroi Stadium, the hand of the humbled Uzbek was raised by the Indon referee.

The score was 20-15 in favor of the Uzbek.

The fight was not even close and Gamo, the underdog from Bago City, who had put up the most sensational fight from the eight-man Team Caltex, cried on the way to the dugout.

He was later approached by the Uzbek whom he had manhandled to apologize for the decision.

Amateur Boxing Association of the Philippines president Manny Lopez bared that the Uzbek team manager also acknowledged their fighter had been beaten but that they could not do anything about the scoring.

In yesterday's finals of the tournament participated in by 29 countries and ranked as high as the Asian Games, Salazar, gold medalist in Acropolis and Bosnia, was given an even chance against Won, a two-fisted attacker who thrives on pressure.

With Gamo's bronze and with Salazar going for the gold while being assured of a silver medal, Team Caltex, with backing from the Philippine Sports Commission, Pacific Heights and Revicon, has surpassed the RP team performance in the 1998 Bangkok Asiad where the national boxers won only one bronze medal.

Whether or not Salazar will win the gold, the RP flag was sure to rise during the closing ceremonies.

National flag

RP referee Salvador Vidal, with help [illegible] team coaches George Caliwan and Pat Gaspi[illegible] trying to convince Filipino embassy offici[illegible] Kuala Lumpur to lend them the national pe[illegible]

The dubious defeats suffered by Gam[illegible] earlier by lightweight Anthony Igusquiza ag[illegible]st Thai Olympic gold medalist Somluck Kamsing, were not isolated cases.

Kamsing, who was voted 17-13 winner over Igusquiza despite having been busted and shamed by the gallant Armyman from Aklan, got a dose of his own medicine when the Thai legend was robbed of a clear points victory over Malaysia's Adnan Yuso in the lightweight semifinal Monday, 25-5.

There were other hideous results in the heavier divisions, reported referee Vidal, where boxers from Uzbekistan and South Korea were given easy tickets to the final.

RP team officials were thankful that Salazar had not been paired with a fighter from a country that is widely regarded as a member of a clique in the International Amateur Boxing Association headed by the mossy and controversial Anwar Chowdry.

Otherwise, Team Caltex would have been deprived of that solidarity crack at the gold in this quiet town.

Fabled 'Tour' on next year

THE FABLED Tour of Luzon will be revived next year with a new twist.

Art Valenzuela, president of the Tour of Luzon Events Management, Inc. said the summer sports spectacle that has attracted millions of fans will try to accomplish what is considered an impossible feat—achieve an average speed of between 35-40 kms per hour.

"It will be difficult for local cyclists to compete in international competitions if they continue to run at speeds that are below international standards," Valenzuela said.

The average speed in the Tour de Suisse is slightly below 40 kms per hour, while the Tour de France boasts of a 38-42 kms speed per hour.

"There is no reason why Filipino cyclists cannot at least approximate the average speed in international championships since the 2003 Tour of Luzon will be run on well-paved roads," said Ed Malay, promotions and publicity director of Events Management.

The bikathon will be staged on March 1-17 with the cooperation of the Department of Tourism, League of Municipalities and the Dept. of Trade and Industry.

Jess Garcia, sports and race director, said the revival will allow professional and amateur cyclists to develop and showcase their talents.

Garcia added that elimination races will be held in Pangasinan, Isabela, Bicol, Cebu and Cagayan de Oro starting in November to determine the composition of the 10 competing teams.

Dennis U. Eroa

BLAST FROM THE PAST

TODAY in 1990, Antonio de Leon Jr. fired a net 134 to bag the Class A division of the Johnnie Walker Tournament of Champions at the Negros Occidental Golf and Country Club. Also today in 1990, Goyu and Sons beat Mico Kaffe de Oro, 97-84, to snatch the Picaa-YKL 3rd Narciso Ramos Memorial Cup basketball championship at the PCHS gym.

PBOAP

PROVINCIAL BUS OPERATORS ASSOCIATION OF THE PHILIPPINES

An Appeal to
Her Excellency, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo,
to Reconcile Government Initiatives on the
Pandacan Terminal Issue

WHEREAS, the Department of Energy (DOE) has entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Caltex, Petron and Shell for the conduct of a Comprehensive Study and the formulation of a Master Plan, due for completion on or before October 12, 2002, to evaluate and propose appropriate solutions to the perceived safety and security risks posed by the proximity of the residential and business communities to the nine-decade-old oil terminals along the Pasig River in Pandacan, Manila;

WHEREAS, the Pandacan Terminal is a strategically located storage and distribution facility of the country's three oil refiners that services about 50 percent of the total fuel requirements of the Philippines from as far up Northern Luzon as Isabela Province, and down Southern Luzon as Laguna Province --- to include that of the 90 percent cumulative lubricant demand of the entire archipelago;

WHEREAS, numerous other key industries --- particularly the transport industry, of which the PROVINCIAL BUS OPERATORS ASSOCIATION OF THE PHILIPPINES (PBOAP) is an integral part of --- other sectors of society, the consuming public at large, and even the ordinary Filipino are critically dependent on the oil industry for their growing energy, fuel and lubricants needs;

WHEREAS, the Honorable Lito Atienza, Manila City Mayor, and the members of the Manila City Council, in consideration of the perceived safety and security hazards posed by the Pandacan Terminal, have, independently and separate from the efforts initiated by the national government through the DOE, passed Manila Ordinance 8027, that imposes the deadline for the Pandacan Terminal to shut down and cease operations come end of June 2002, especially giving the facilities a six-month temporary Business Permit only for them to operate;

WHEREAS, no other existing facility in the entire country can match the present capacity of the Pandacan Terminal, it being a dedicated, efficient, safe and reliable one-line supply and distribution network connected to the oil majors' refineries via an underground, all-weather pipeline;

WHEREAS, the immediately feasible alternative to the Pandacan Terminal, in view of its imminent abrupt and forced closure, is to source supply directly from the provinces of Bataan and Batangas via thousands of tank trucks on a 24-hour daily basis, a move that would drastically cut down existing supply levels by about half, result in possible product hoarding and rationing, increase fuel pump prices, cause serious traffic congestions and increase related road hazards, among other potential major disruptions;

WHEREAS, safety is of paramount concern and a core value of the oil industry, convincing and valid proof of which is the absence of any major incident in Pandacan since the start of the oil majors' operations therein in the 1920s. And further relative to this is that the fact-finding study undertaken by EQE International -- a world-renowned third party risk consultant engaged under the DOE-Oil Industry MOA Comprehensive Study to identify the degree of risk posed by the proximity of the surrounding community --- shows that the existing configuration of the terminals in Pandacan meets acceptable societal risk criteria when compared to International Standards;

WHEREAS, the oil majors have pronounced that they recognize community concerns over their plant operations, and have moreover declared that they are open and even willing to adopt the measures EQE recommended as a compromise, so that whatever risk that may be posed by the proximity of the surrounding community could further be reduced. Such measures once adopted the EQE Study pointed out would result in the condition it described as that "the maximum individual risk of a fatality in the areas immediately outside the boundary fence of the terminals as the result of incidents inside the terminals become 20 times lower than the risk from an average working or domestic environment":

WHEREFORE, in view of the foregoing and other related considerations of grave national economic, social, political and security repercussions, among others, we, the owners, operators and top management, along with all the personnel, of the PROVINCIAL BUS OPERATORS ASSOCIATION OF THE PHILIPPINES (PBOAP) --- an organization composed of the major provincial bus companies servicing the entire island province of Luzon and sizeable territories of the Visayas and Mindanao --- do hereby resolve, as it is resolved, that the national government, under the august leadership of Her Excellency, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, reconcile initiatives undertaken at the level of the DOE and that of the concerned local government units to arrive at a favorable resolution to the Pandacan Terminal issue, especially in light of the direction laid down by the national government-oil industry MOA, which endeavors the conduct of a Comprehensive Study and Master Plan on the issue, for the benefit and welfare of the Filipino people and the Philippine national economy.

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CUL Transport

Rizza Moises
Genesis Transport

Marcos Abellera
Martinez Trans

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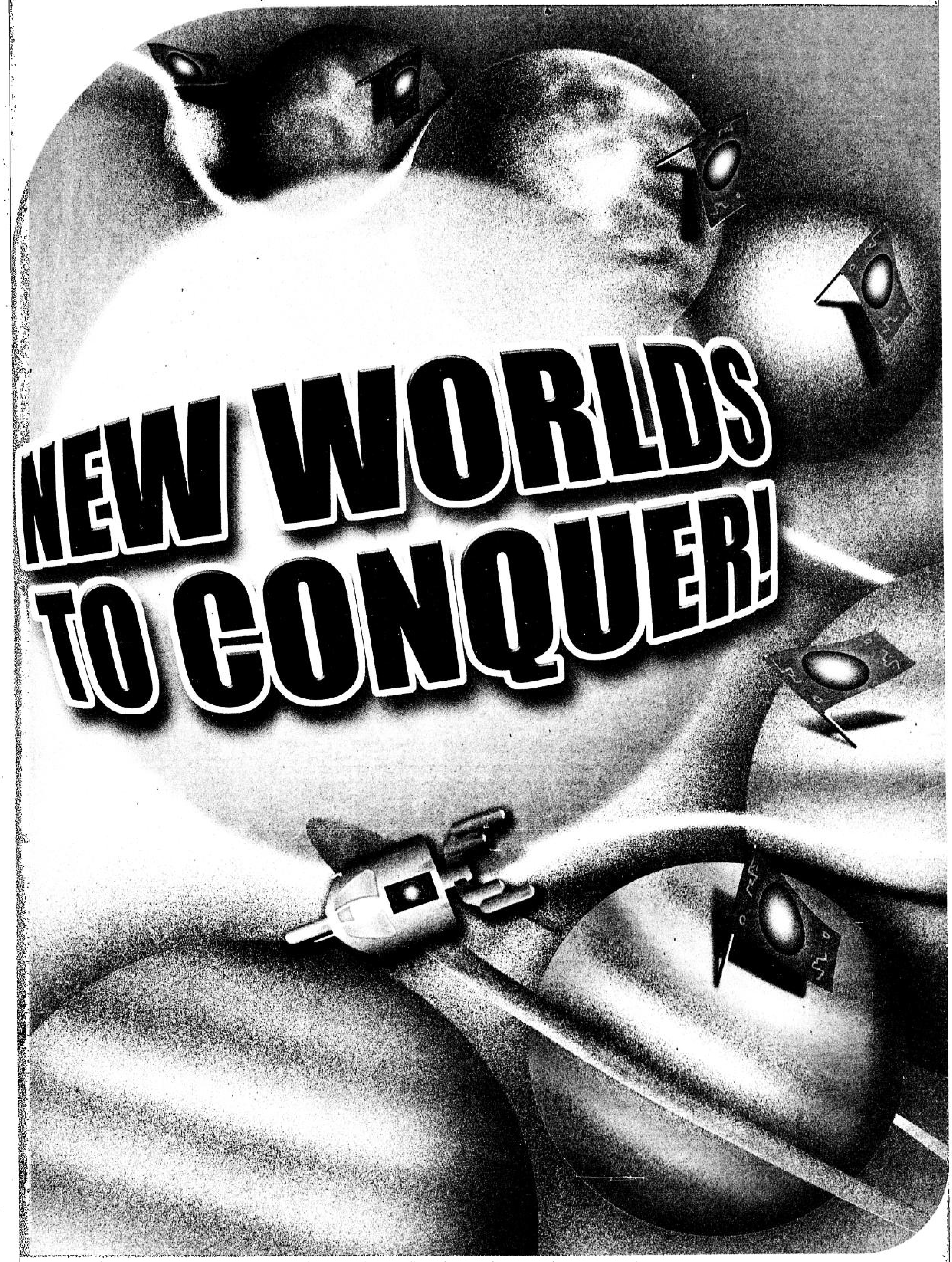

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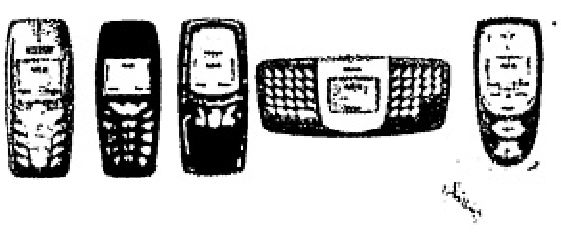

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▩ Edsa gunmen no 'ordinary criminals,' police say/A26
▩ Bare Eye: Asian masterpiece in manipulation /A26

METRO
Editor Louie C. Camino

▩ Oil depot to scale down operations /A26

'We may have to worry about kidnapping'

FERNANDO

By Leila Salaverria, Tina Santos and Agnes Donato

HOMEOWNERS in private subdivisions in Metro Manila yesterday expressed concern about security risks if roads in their enclaves would be open to the public to ease traffic in the metropolis.

"If the roads are open to the public, then we may have to worry about kidnapping," said Barangay Forbes Park Chair Jose Concepcion.

Forbes Park is home not only to the richest families in the country, but also to several embassies and expatriate heads of multinational corporations.

Earlier, Metro Manila Development Chair Bayani Fernando said he would open the roads of private subdivisions to help solve the traffic problem.

Residents of subdivisions in

WE MAY HAVE/ A26

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Case against Pasay cops might end in settlement

By Christian V. Esguerra

CRIMINAL charges against the 21 Pasay policemen who bungled a hostage rescue might end in a settlement if the parents of slain 4-year-old Dexter Balala would be convinced to drop the charges, according to a ranking police officer.

The officer yesterday said that former Pasay police chief Supt. Eduardo dela Cerna might be trying to corner a settlement with the Balala family.

"It's likely that he's trying to convince the family to withdraw the case against him and the other accused," said the officer who spoke to reporters on condition of anonymity.

"His career spans more than 35 years, his reputation are at stake here," the officer said.

CASE AGAINST/ A26

Court orders ABS-CBN to pay royalties

By Leah Salterio

THE FILIPINO Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers Inc. (Filscap) succeeded in getting a temporary restraining order to stop ABS-CBN from using original musical compositions without license or permission in four of the network's top-rating shows.

The network is facing an infringement case after Filscap filed a 24-page complaint, accusing ABS-CBN of using songs belonging to Filscap's repertoire or inventory in three primetime soap operas and a drama anthology without license.

Filscap also accused ABS-CBN of failing to pay royalties for the public performance of the musical works.

Judge Reynaldo Daway of the Quezon City

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Oil depot to scale down operations

By Abigail Ho

THE SCALING down of operations of the Pandacan oil depot in Manila may take place sooner than expected as the Department of Energy helps facilitate talks between the concerned oil companies and the Manila city government.

In an interview, Energy Secretary Vincent Perez Jr. said his department supported the position of Manila Mayor Lito Atienza that the oil depot's operations should be scaled down significantly and as soon as possible.

"We're intensely negotiating between the mayor and the oil companies to try to make oil companies commit, as specific as possible, what they're trying to scale down, like the number of tanks and the storage capacity," he said.

He added that these talks had so far been very fruitful as Pilipinas Shell had already committed to remove its liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) facilities from the oil terminal.

"But it takes a while to remove (the facilities)," Perez said. "There are many live, flammable materials in the area that one can't just remove." The oil companies had already presented their plans to Atienza last week but Perez said the mayor deemed these not good enough.

"The mayor said this is a good step in the right direction but it is not enough," he said. "He said the proposal was insufficient in terms of speed and magnitude of scale-down. The DOE is trying to persuade oil companies to commit as fast as humanly possible specifically what they will scale down."

Perez said that the plans to scale down would start by July 1.

Also, a "green buffer zone" would be established around the Pandacan oil terminal.

"The idea is to have a lagoon where people can go boating, a playground, biking trail and picnic area," Perez said. "There would also be another buffer zone between the oil tanks, like a parking lot."

He said Atienza was quite receptive to the proposed establishment of safety buffer zones, which would also be for the enjoyment and development of the Pandacan residents.

The Pandacan oil terminal supplies almost 90 percent of the fuel requirements of Metro Manila and neighboring provinces of Cavite, Laguna, Bulacan, Pampanga, Tarlac and Nueva Ecija.

A premature closure of the terminal is projected to reduce fuel supply by 40 percent, which could trigger an oil supply shortage in the said areas. According to the law of supply and demand, this could result in higher fuel costs, Perez pointed out.

'We may have to worry ...

From page A25

Caloocan-Malabon-Navotas have also expressed alarm that their security might be put at risk even if they vowed to support Fernando's proposal.

"Fernando's idea might be good in order to decongest traffic in major thoroughfares, but he has to make sure that our privacy and security would not be placed on the line," said Renato Tengco, a resident of the United People's Neighborhood Association in Calaanana Compound, Edsa, Caloocan.

Concepcion said opening subdivision roads to the public would not solve Metro Manila's traffic woes. He also expressed concerns about the pollution that such an action could bring.

"As far as Forbes Park is concerned, there's no justification for that (opening of the roads) to happen," Concepcion said. "Let's look at the problem and then let's find the solution."

He said the proper solution would be for the local government to implement its own rules. He cited as an example his own experience in directing the traffic in Barangay Forbes Park, saying that traffic flowed smoothly in the roads they handled.

"If you empower the barangays to solve their problems, we will solve them," he said.

Even when McKinley Road in Forbes Park was opened to the public, only a minimal number of vehicles used the road, Concepcion said.

"That's why after a few days they no longer carried out the experiment," he said.

Bel-Air Barangay Chairperson Constancia Lichauco is taking a wait-and-see attitude on Fernando's proposal.

"Right now that's just an idea so I will not comment," she said. "If it's done, then we'll see what we can do."

Concepcion said that at the very least, there must be a public hearing before the proposal is implemented.

He said the MMDA should also ask the people what roads they want to use, adding that he is willing to sit down and talk with Fernando if needed.

Case against ...

From page A25

But Dela Cerna denied in a telephone interview that he was trying to arrange a settlement with the family.

"Have pity on us," he appealed to the public. "We've long been battered by this controversy."

Dela Cerna was about to retire in less than two months when he was relieved for mishandling the rescue operation last May 31.

Rumors of a possible settlement between the Balalas and the policemen were fanned further after Dela Cerna appeared to have facilitated the family's appearance during the preliminary investigation at the Pasay prosecutor's office last Monday.

Abrazaldo yesterday said he had also heard reports of a possible settlement.

"Actually, settlements are possible in any case," he said. "But it's difficult to confirm them until the complainants have filed an affidavit of desistance."

Edsa gunmen no 'ordinary criminals,' police say

By Nelson Flores and Martin Marfil

POLICE found the getaway van used by the robbers who shot and killed a lawman and wounded 12 others during the shootout on Monday at the Edsa flyover in Mandaluyong City. JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

MANDALUYONG City police have some leads on the identity of the suspects who killed a traffic policeman and wounded 12 others on Monday in a shootout on Edsa, according to Supt. Sukarno Ikbala.

But Ikbala refused to identify the suspects, saying that authorities were still counterchecking the information they have with the help of witnesses.

A member of the PNP-TMG, PO1 Dexter Sy, was killed in the shootout that left 12 other people, two of them policemen and a 7-month-old baby, wounded.

Authorities also believe that the suspects were not "ordinary criminals."

This was based on an analysis of how the operation was carried out, according to Supt. Francisco Camurungan of the Traffic Management Group.

"These were not ordinary criminals," he said. "Based on the modus operandi, the shootings could be compared to patterns taught in military or police training."

But he refused to say directly that the suspects could be soldiers or policemen, adding that the investigation was still ongoing.

But sources at the Mandaluyong City police headquarters told the INQUIRER that soldiers or someone with military training is behind the incident. They noted that the suspects were precise in their movements and determined to use their high-power weapons,

"In our experience, only active or former military men could do such a thing," said an investigator who did not want to be named.

Initial investigation showed that Sy and his companions were stationed near the corner of Edsa and Shaw Boulevard when they received a report that armed men on board a white Toyota Corolla Altis with Plate No. WPT-303 had committed robbery along Ortigas Avenue.

Nayon closes after 30 years

By Christian V. Esguerra

IN THE END, not even a "temporary restraining order" could stop the closure of Nayong Pilipino.

The Nayon management yesterday closed the theme park despite strong opposition from employees and efforts of park concessionaires to secure a TRO last Friday.

Yesterday, the gates were closed and a huge billboard announcing the closure was posted on the park's entrance.

The closure did anything but silence the opposition against the scheduled takeover of a portion of the park by the Manila International Airport Authority (MIAA).

The concessionaires' lawyer Oliver Lozano yesterday called the closure "illegal," claiming it was barred by the TRO issued by Pasay Judge Henrick Gingoyon. He said he would file today contempt charges against the theme park management for supposedly defying the order.

But Nayon executive director Charito Planas said the TRO covered only the eviction of more than 50 concessionaires in connection with the park's closure.

"We will not evict the concessionaires because there's a TRO, but we definitely had the right to close Nayon," she said.

The TRO is effective until July 10, during which the court will hear the writ of preliminary injunction filed by Lozano.

"We specifically asked the court not to evict the concessionaires by closing Nayon," he said. "Since a TRO has been granted, it means that the TRO also covers the closure of the park."

In his petition, Lozano cited the absence of an executive order authorizing the takeover of Nayong Pilipino through a memorandum of agreement Planas signed with the MIAA on May 8.

He also argued that the park could not be closed until Congress repeals Presidential Decree No. 37, which created the Nayong Pilipino Foundation in 1972.

Planas said she was told by the Office of the President that the MOA should come first before President Macapagal's executive order.

She added the decree need not be repealed because there was no transfer of ownership of the Nayon property.

She said she would secure two executive orders—one confirming the MOA and the other providing for the compensation of employees—and submit them during the hearing on July 10.

"I'm very sure these would finally put the issue to rest."

To ease traffic, MMDA turns to cutting trees

By Leila B. Salaverria

EVEN trees will not be spared.

In an effort to curb the perennial traffic problem in the metropolis, Metro Manila Development Authority Chair Bayani Fernando said on Monday that the trees lining the sidewalks may have to be cut down.

"Everything you see on the sidewalks, even the trees," Fernando said when asked which obstructions will have to be demolished to clear sidewalks for pedestrians. "They are blocking the way of pedestrians. They are blocking the way to safety."

Fernando earlier said sidewalks need to be free from vendors so pedestrians can use them. In turn, the traffic condition will improve since people will not be clogging the streets.

Aside from trees and vendors, establishments like barangay halls and *carinderias* built right on the sidewalk would be cleared, according to Fernando. He also said even billboards, signboards and flower boxes built on pedestrian space would be removed. Vendors on pedestrian overpasses would also be asked to leave, Fernando said.

The former Marikina mayor also told reporters that clearing the sidewalks of obstructions would be like "hitting two birds with one stone."

"We will have a very good solution to our traffic problem and we will see a cleaner Metro Manila," he said.

The MMDA is also in charge of the metropolis' garbage problem. Fernando earlier said that the garbage problem in Metro Manila would not be resolved by recycling, which he described as a "losing proposition."

Instead, he proposed that sanitary landfills be used for non-biodegradable materials until the proper technology can be acquired.

Fernando is an engineer and is credited with turning Marikina City into one of the cleanest places in Metro Manila.

Court orders ...

From page A25

Regional Trial Court branch 90 issued a 20-day TRO which went in effect on June 24. ABS-CBN was ordered to refrain or desist from publicly performing the songs "Pangako sa 'Yo," "Hanggang sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan," "Maalaala Mo Kaya" and "Iingatan Ka."

The songs are the themes of the four shows currently being aired on the network.

"Maalaala Mo Kaya" is a composition of Constancio de Guzman and is played in the weekly drama anthology of the same title, hosted by Charo Santos-Concio.

"Pangako sa 'Yo" is a Rey Valera original played in the soap opera of the same title, starring Jericho Rosales and Cristine Hermosa.

"Hanggang sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan" is written by George Canseco and is used in the daily soap opera of the same title, starring Claudine Barretto.

"Iingatan Ka" is penned by Marizan Yaneza Soriano and is played in the soap series starring Judy Ann Santos and Piolo Pascual.

Filscap, through its lawyer Tomas O. Del Castillo Jr. of Ortega, Del Castillo, Bacorro, Odulio, Calma and Carbonell law firm, demanded that ABS-CBN pay an annual flat rate of P4 million to the association.

The network made a counteroffer of P1.3 million to cover all music use for ABS-CBN Channel 2 on VHF, Studio 23 on UHF, and ABS-CBN News Channel, Lifestyle Network, Cinema One and Vid-Ok on cable.

Filscap, however, rejected the counteroffer.

"They (ABS-CBN) don't want to agree to a reasonable royalty," Del Castillo told the INQUIRER.

Judge Daway has scheduled a hearing for an injunction on July 5 to decide whether or not to impose more restraints on the network.

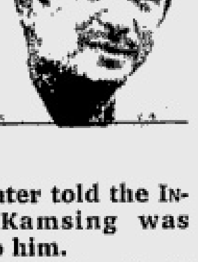
"If the injunction is granted to Filscap, ABS-CBN cannot continue using the songs on TV while the case is ongoing," Del Castillo said.

Filscap is an association of composers, lyricists, songwriters and music publishers with over 800 members, including Ryan Cayabyab, Willy Cruz, Vehnee Saturno, Jim Paredes, Jose Mari Chan and Lucresia Kasilag.

Asian masterpiece in manipulation

BARE EYE

Recah Trinidad



SEREMBAN, Malaysia—It pains, but honesty has suddenly become a rare, if not totally extinct, commodity in this thickly forested town of quiet, smiling people.

You may not believe it but even several winners in the Asian Amateur Boxing Championship hosted by this town could not honestly accept they have indeed won.

Take the case of Thai boxing legend Somluck Kamsing, his country's first Olympic gold medalist, who on Saturday was shamed and manhandled by Armyman Anthony Igusquiza during the tournament lightweight division quarterfinal at the oven-hot Paroi Stadium.

The only way the 29-year-old Kamsing, who returned to millions in gifts and incentives from his sensational stint in the 1996 Atlanta Olympics, could have won was if they had started penalizing a boxer who would score a clear punch.

I mean, if the International Amateur Boxing Association had instantly altered rules and decreed that, for a fighter to win, he must neither hurt nor jolt the other fellow inside the ring.

Igusquiza, who had sworn to avenge a points defeat previously suffered against Kamsing in Cuba, surpassed himself in dominating Kamsing who had looked anything but an Olympic gold medalist during the one-sided bout.

* * *

Or maybe the 27-year-old Igusquiza, veteran of many international campaigns, was so sharp he had drawn the ire of the judges with his utter viciousness.

OK, Igusquiza did not jump-start, but instead waited for the second round before working his mitts on the fast-fading Kamsing.

It was Igusquiza all the way. In fact, his handlers had asked him to just coast and take it easy in the fourth and final round.

But when the verdict was announced and the referee raised Kamsing's hand, all Igusquiza could do was swear and shake his head while his teammates tried hard to swallow their frustration.

Now listen. This next scene was sort of ironic, but when I ventured into the row of white cubicles where the boxers changed their uniforms, I saw Kamsing walking over to Igusquiza.

Igusquiza later told the INQUIRER that Kamsing was apologizing to him.

No need to apologize, I told Igusquiza, he hardly touched you there, in fact you had punished him hard in that fight.

Igusquiza explained that Kamsing was trying to explain that they had nothing to do with the hideous scoring.

* * *

I was about to forget everything. But another incident involving a Filipino fighter (see Asian boxing championship story in sports section) has more than convinced me that no country without an influence or connection with the ruling Aiba, controlled by a cunning old leader from Pakistan, could expect a fair deal in any Asian amateur boxing tournament.

I can assure you that, in my many years in the press box, most of them spent at ringside during big boxing fights, I had been witness to the dirty maneuverings in professional title fights.

Indeed, there was reason to believe that Seoul, South Korea was hands-down the hometown decision capital of the boxing world.

In fact, there were suspicions that shady characters trained and coddled by great boxing fixers in Seoul could've had a role in the questionable results of Korea's dubious wins over Italy and Spain in the World Cup.

So maybe Korean underworld sports figures have perfected the art of subtle arm-twisting.

They could be regarded as the best, the world champions in this sinister competition that's regularly played and performed under the table.

* * *

Pardon my saying this, it may come as a shock, but my ranking of Koreans as among the biggest manipulators in the sports world has changed.

The evil happenings behind the scene in the Seoul sports world would pale in comparison to what they have done in the 21st Asian Amateur Boxing Championship which closed here yesterday.

"It's very, very dangerous what they have been doing, they have totally forgotten honesty and sincerity" swore Hisham bin Haji Hashim, technical delegate to the tournament.

Hashim, himself an amateur boxing referee and judge, swore he had not experienced anything as dirty and evil as the one perpetrated in the just-concluded championship.

"Change, change, change, we have to shift names of judges at the last minute," he complained. "Nothing wrong if fights are close, but several big losers end up winners. I cannot take it."

A little investigation would bare that there's a clique within the Aiba that controls the assignment of judges and referees in international amateur championships, including the Olympics and the Asian Games.

So far, the results alone in the tournament here would back suspicions on how countries that had ingratiated themselves with the powers-that-be in the Aiba continue to be rewarded, mainly with dubious wins, by that clique.

* * *

This could sound exaggerated but manipulations and maneuverings in previous Olympics, like Barcelona, Atlanta and Sydney, would pale in comparison with what the Aiba had darkly achieved in the 21st Asian Amateur Boxing Championship.

We talked to a few neophyte judges, often scolded if they did not cooperate, who fearfully swore that the tournament could have also served as workshop on how to control and maneuver final championship results.

These young judges and referees, including several local officials hired for the tournament, said the sinister system applied here had no parallel in recent international tournaments.

The under-the-table operations would appear like they had the devil's stinking stamp.

No doubt, honesty, sincerity, including the Olympic ideals themselves, have been wantonly savaged in this quiet town picked by the Aiba and its mossy, old chief to complete a masterpiece in dirty tricks.

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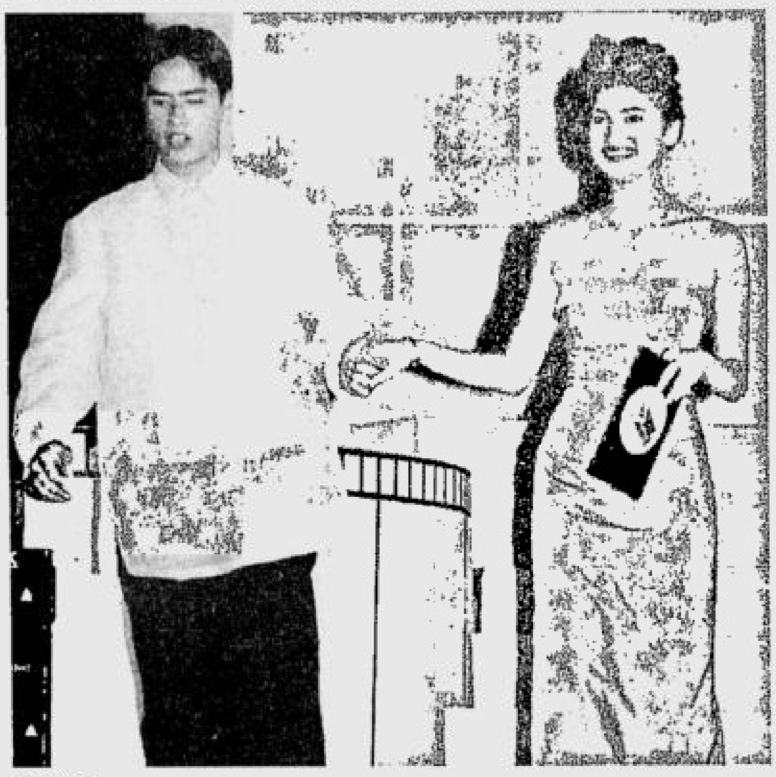
ENTERTAINMENT

Editor **Louie C. Camino**

"AT LEAST I won the award." MFF's best actress Sharon Cuneta seems to be telling best actor Rudy Fernandez. With them is Sharon's hubby, Sen. Kiko Pangilinan.



OYO Boy Sotto escorts Anne Curtis to the podium to hand over an award.

PHOTOS BY ROMY HOMILLADA

THE REAL Nancy Castigleone and Piolo Pascual standing up.

DOES it make any difference? From "Buhayin ang Maynila" to "Maynila Mahal Kita." Seated with Mayor Atienza are Councilor Miles Roces (extreme left), his wife Beng Atienza, and FAP president Espiridion Laxa.

MFF AWARDS

Glitches overpower glitter

By Marinel R. Cruz

"I CAME prepared but the people behind the show obviously did not."

A composed Sharon Cuneta said this to a dumbfounded crowd after a technical problem forced her to stop performing in the middle of a song and to step down the stage in last Saturday night's Manila Film Festival awards ceremony at the Ninoy Aquino Stadium.

The megastar's humbling experience was only one of several glitches that marred the show, which was directed by Jay Alterejos.

Host Dina Bonnevie gave the show organizers a piece of her mind when her presenter son Oyo Boy Sotto and actress Anne Curtis were mistakenly introduced as Piolo Pascual and Nancy Castigleone.

"I made sure my kids would come dressed in their best, *tapos magkakamali lang pala sila sa pagpapakilala,"* said the irrepressible Ms D. Her daughter Danica was also a presenter.

Ricky Davao, Eric Quizon and Charlene Gonzales also co-hosted the awards show.

Halfway into the show, a voice-over announced that Dingdong Dantes and Judy Ann Santos were to sing with Alessandra de Rossi, Polo Ravales, Anne Curtis and Vhong Navarro in a vaudeville number. Neither Dingdong nor Juday came out to perform. They must have been shocked to hear their names included in the number since they were there to present the next award.

Mercifully, the production number of the Philippine National Folkdance Co. came right after the vaudeville booboo. Probably the only remarkable performance in the entire show, the dancers wowed the audience with their grace and colorful number.

Viewers couldn't help but think that Ara Mina was merely added on to the "Super B" production number when she and Rufa Mae Quinto performed near the show's end. While the dancers' pink and black outfit matched Super B's two-piece bikini costume, Ara stuck out like a sore thumb as she was dressed in black. And the number ended with Rufa Mae being lifted up by the dancers while Ara was left posing below her like she was just one of Rufa Mae's backup dancers.

"Magkapatid" raked in the highest number of awards that night, for best picture, best story and best screenplay (Mel del Rosario), and best director for Joel Lamangan, aside from Sharon's best actress trophy.

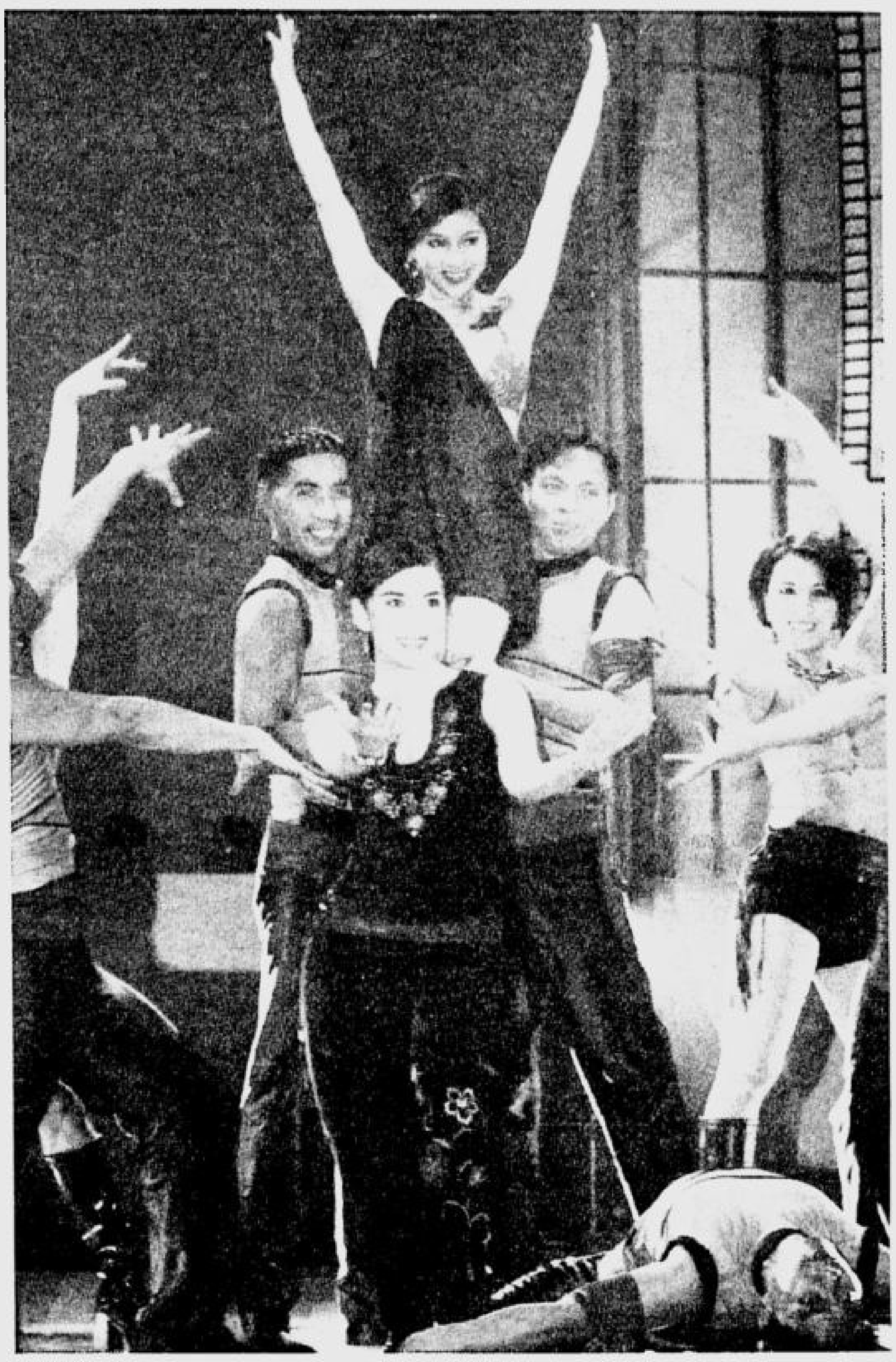
Sharon bested Judy Ann, Ara, Rufa Mae, Joyce Jimenez and Elizabeth Oropesa.

A breathless Rudy Fernandez went up the stage to accept his second best actor plum in a Boy Viñarao-directed film. He earned his first with Viñarao in 1998 from the Film Academy of the Philippines (FAP) for his work in "Birador." Rudy dedicated the MMFF award to his friend, former San Juan Mayor Jinggoy Estrada.

The best supporting citations were awarded to veteran actors Gloria Romero and Joonee Gamboa for their works on "I Think I'm In Love" and "Diskarte," respectively.

"I Think I'm In Love," a remake of the Kuh Ledesma original, was picked the best theme song. Francis Vinarao received the best editing award, also for "Diskarte."

Jon Red's innovative comedy "Utang ni Tatang" took home the honors for best cinematography (Larry Manda) and best production design (Bona Fajardo).



DANCING Queen Rufa Mae Quinto and her lady-in-waiting Ara Mina. JACINTO TEE

MEGASTAR Sharon Cuneta minutes before her disastrous song number.

JOEL Lamangan takes home the Best Director award for "Magkapatid."

PRESENTERS Judy Ann Santos and Dingdong Dantes still manage to smile after the vaudeville booboo.

Rosie O' leads fight for gays and lesbians to adopt kids

MIAMI—Rosie O'Donnell said she's begun to feel the sting of leading the fight to allow gays and lesbians to adopt children in Florida.

She said a medical association recently rescinded an invitation to speak at their convention.

"They said they were afraid of protesters," O'Donnell told 200 women Sunday at the two-day Wise Women Weekend retreat in Miami Beach. "I'm not used to being considered controversial."

O'Donnell also responded to her opponents' criticism that her crusade is a gay issue. "I have no homosexual agenda," she said. "I have a child agenda."

The 40-year-old talk show host and comedian, who has a home in Miami Beach and has adopted three children outside Florida, said she learned about the ban when she applied to adopt a Florida foster child in her care.

"It stunned me to know that Florida, the state where I live, is the only one that does not allow gay adoptions," said O'Donnell, who came out in March.

Florida passed the gay adoption ban in 1977 at a time when entertainer Anita Bryant went on a crusade against a Dade County ordinance protecting homosexuals from discrimination.

Last August, a federal judge in Miami upheld the law in a case brought by two gay men who wanted to adopt foster children already in their care. The decision is being appealed.

O'Donnell's efforts to win support for a possible repeal of the law received little support in the Florida Legislature in March.

Not guilty

SYDNEY, Australia—Two men were cleared of trying to blackmail Oscar-winning actor Russell Crowe.

Judge John Williams ordered a jury Monday at Coffs Harbor District court to acquit the men, saying prosecutors failed to prove they demanded money from Crowe in return for destroying a video of the star brawling outside a bar in the eastern Australian town.

Philip Cropper and Malcolm Mercer, both 38, had pleaded innocent to charges of trying to extort money from Crowe using the video, which showed the "Gladiator" star fighting with a man and arguing with a woman outside a nightclub in 1999.

The pair had faced a maximum sentence of 10 years if convicted.

Williams said Cropper and Mercer's claim that they would go to the media with the video if Crowe didn't pay them $114,000 was not a "specific threat."

"There seems to be not much doubt in this matter that money was an object," Williams said. "But what (the prosecution) has to prove was there was a demand for money and that demand was supported by a threat."

Mercer and Cropper smiled broadly as the judge ordered the jury to acquit them. Outside the court, they said they'd consider mounting a case against the police for malicious prosecution.

"We've always been of the belief that we should never have been here in the first place," Cropper told reporters.

Crowe, 38, wasn't present during the trial and did not immediately comment on the outcome. He was believed to be in Mexico shooting a film.

Negligence claim

LONDON—Elton John lost his case at the Court of Appeal, which he'd hoped would revive his multimillion-dollar negligence claim against his former accountants.

John claimed that his manager, not he, should pay the costs for tours—which amounted to $10.5 million. He sought to revive a suit against PricewaterhouseCoopers for allegedly failing to advise him that he was paying touring costs.

, Lord Justice Robert Walker, who joined one of the two other justices in ruling against the singer, said Monday the case illustrated "a melancholy truth."

"The fact that very large sums of money are to change hands under a commercial agreement, and further fact that it has been negotiated and prepared over a long period by well-remunerated professionals, provide no guarantee of competent drafting," Walker said.

He said the court had to make sense of the agreement as best it could and concluded that the 1986 contract with the management company John Reid Enterprises did not obligate it to bear the tour expenses.

At a hearing last year, the High Court dismissed John's claim of negligence against Andrew Haydon, former managing director of John Reid Enterprises.

John did not appeal that verdict, and he had previously reached a settlement of his action against Reid.

The performer admitted he enjoyed a "somewhat lavish lifestyle" and had spent $42 million on personal expenses—including $410,000 on flowers—over a 20-month period.

A High Court judge described the 55-year-old as "clearly a man of an uncommonly generous disposition" and a man of great intelligence, but who had "little or no interest in business matters." ***AP***

‘MINORITY REPORT’

Darker, grittier Spielberg

By Ruben M. Cruz Jr.

REVIEW

IN his previous science-fiction film, “A.I. Artificial Intelligence,” an ode to the late great Stanley Kubrick, Steven Spielberg explored the philosophical, spiritual and moral question, “What makes people truly human?” The result was an intelligent but dark and creepy look at a future full of dilemmas, a film that gave you a buffet of thoughts to ponder.

While the conclusion of “A.I” is the kind of affirmation one has gotten used to in a Spielberg film, for three-fourths of the way, the noted filmmaker unsettles the audience with the story of a revolutionary child-robot who wants to be a real boy but ironically has to see his way through a cold and cruel human world in order to do so.

“Minority Report” is an even darker and grittier futuristic film, with an issue that is just as debatable: Can we choose our fate or is it all mapped out for us?

Predestination or free will, it’s certainly one of the great mysteries of the universe and a hot topic for scholars and street philosophers alike.

This is not the first time it has been explored in a film regardless of genre (think of all the romantic comedies with destiny themes), but I haven’t seen a film explore it this compellingly. Imagine! A slam-bang, action blockbuster that actually has something to say about how and why we live.

Short story

The film’s screenplay is adapted from a short story written by the late Philip K. Dick, a cult favorite science-fiction writer whose voluminous work has inspired films like “Blade Runner” and “Total Recall.” Amazingly, Dick wrote “The Minority Report” way back in 1956. Talk about a guy ahead of his time. He is said to have written 40 other novels that have yet to be produced into film. If they’re anything like “Minority Report,” then we have a lot to look forward to.

The film takes place in Washington D.C. 52 years from now. From the murder capital of the world, Washington in 2054 has become a city with zero murders committed in the last six years, thanks to a pioneering police unit called “Pre-Crime.”

Using the visions of three psychic humans called “Precognitives” or “Precogs,” the Pre-Crime unit is able to stop a murder before it happens.

They apprehend the would-be-murderers and keep them locked up in a Department of Containment, managed by an organ-playing warden named Gideon (a short but memorable performance by Tim Blake Nelson).

The Precogs have been infallible in their predictions thus far. Kept in a perpetual dream-like state through drugs and bathed in biological fluids, the Precogs are held in a sanctuary known as “The Temple.” They are worshipped as deities by some cults and have inspired a clamor for the Pre-Crime system to go national. How the three (two males and their leader, a female named Agatha) are going to expand their predictions to cover the whole country is not explained, only that a national referendum would decide the issue.

Original work

I haven’t read any of Dick’s original work, but whether the premise is entirely his or the innovative derivation of writers Scott Frank (“Out of Sight”, “Dead Again”) and Jon Cohen, with some help from Spielberg himself, the storyline is intricate and engaging. A trip to the bathroom while watching this movie would probably be disastrous as every scene is important to the film (a real problem for some people since the film is two and a half hours long).

The story revolves around John Anderton, Pre-Crime’s chief, a man whose obsession to the system is borne out of a personal tragedy.

This is perhaps one of Tom Cruise’s strongest performances. Here he has a role where he can have his cake and eat it too, in a film as marketable as “Mission Impossible” and as piercing as “Vanilla Sky.”

Anderton exhibits the skills of Ethan Hunt but he also has the painful memory of a lost son driving him into isolation and drug addiction. He’s a strong, complex character caught up in one of the messiest chain of events as film plots go. Cruise therefore is able to take on edge-of-your-seat action scenes while acting up a storm.

Anderton’s world is turned upside down when the system he believes in churns him out as the next murderer and he finds himself on the run from his own unit. Could the Pre-cogs be wrong? Is he being set up? I won’t venture into any more of the plot details because the film cleverly keeps its motives and twists until just the right opportunities come along to unspool them. The material is ripe with possibilities and Spielberg and company delve into each one with gusto. It’s the kind of film you’d want to discuss with people after, or if you’re all alone, have a beer or two to mull things over.

Prophecy

“Minority Report” is truly a slap in the face of all the mindless and moral-less action films we have been seeing.

How could Anderton kill someone he doesn’t know? Moreover, how could he kill someone when he already knows that’s the last thing he’d want to do? Would it be the prophecy that drives him towards the unwanted event?

For Minority Report’s vision of the future, Spielberg reportedly assembled a think-tank comprised of the best minds in technology, environment, crime fighting, medicine, health, social services, transportation, computer technology and other fields.

The things that we see onscreen are certainly fascinating but they are also familiar and logical. Billboards and posters have given way to personal virtual reality commercials that flash on walls. Voice-activated rooms and appliances are commonplace (we’ve seen this in other films before). Traffic gridlocks are passé because of magnetic skyways and electronic cars that need minimal driving (Lexuses actually) and are connected to individual high-rise residences. Police officers have more in their crime fighting arsenal, including weapons that are less lethal but just as potent in subduing suspects, and powerful motion-activated computers. Government and business are able to track down every citizen and consumer through eye scanners.

Cynicism

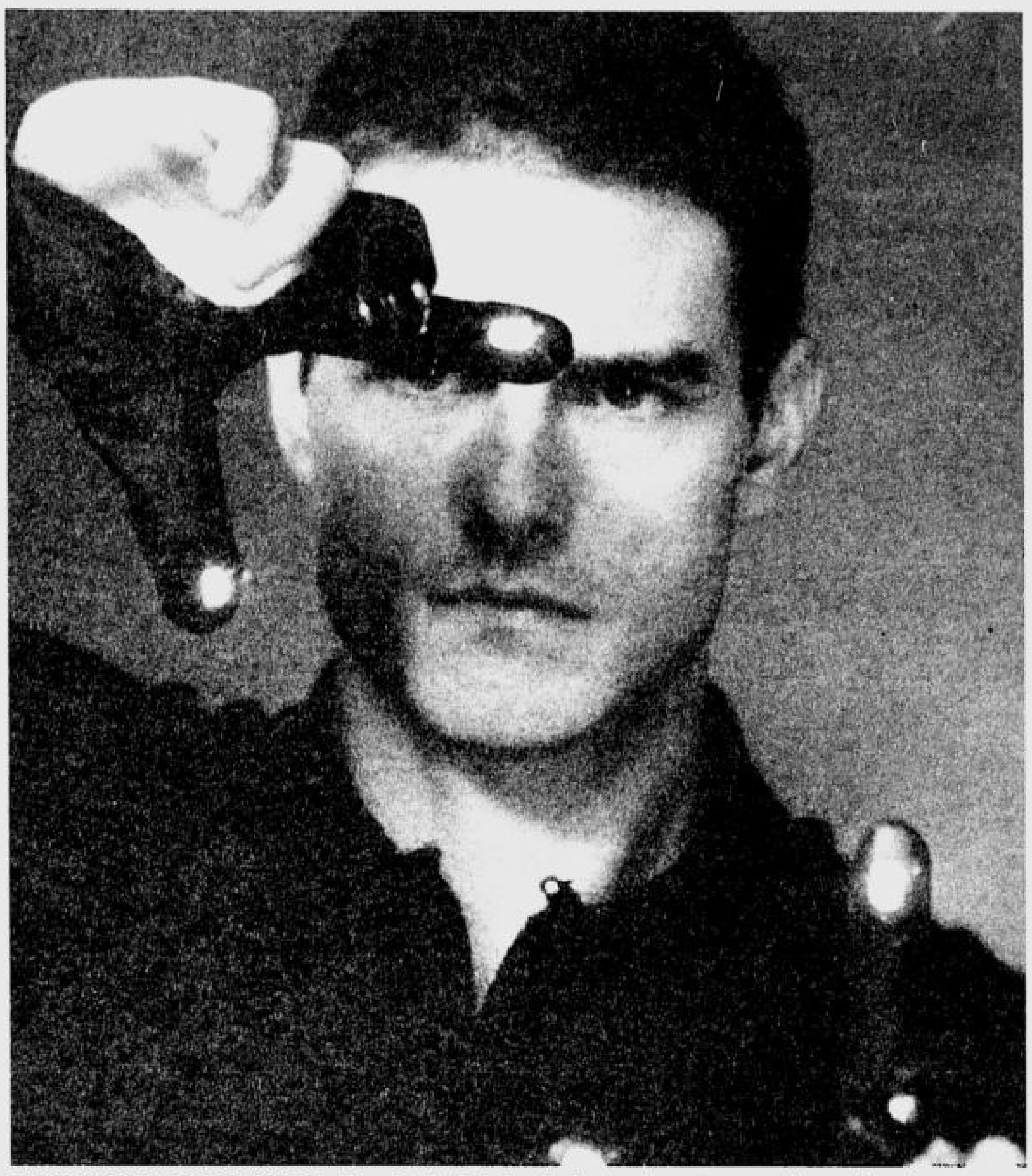
All these make for a very convenient future, and it doesn’t leave one with a feeling of cynicism and dread. Technology has not taken over humankind but serves its every purpose. Through technology, societal and individual functions are carried out efficiently.

This backdrop makes another issue in the film all the more striking. Is one willing to live with all the technological conveniences that make for a better and safer society even if they come at the expense of personal privacy? In the case of the Pre-Cogs, is it right to enslave three human beings just so there wouldn’t be any murders?

The film’s use of special effects doesn’t detract from the story as much as it edifies it. Long-time Spielberg cinematographer Janusz Kaminski knows how to exquisitely blend in the special effects with the live action through the use of desaturated colors for some scenes and warmly lit hues for others, conveying just the right emotions along with the subtle musical scoring of John Williams.

There are also strong supporting performances complementing Cruise. Colin Farrell plays the Justice official sniffing for flaws in Pre-Crime and in Anderton himself. Max Von Sydow lends his regal presence to the role of Lamar Burgess, the father of Pre-Crime and Anderton’s boss. And playing the most gifted Pre-Cog Agatha with deep sensitivity is Oscar-nominated actress Samantha Morton.

Rare is a film that is good for the art house crowd as well as for mass consumption. So when it comes along, you just have to go out on a line and tell people to see it. That’s just what I’ll do for “Minority Report.”



STRONGEST PERFORMANCE. Tom Cruise’s John Anderton is a strong and complex character.

Alma: I’m not with anyone now

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

SIX months after the break-up of her 12-year marriage with Parañaque Mayor **Joey Marquez, Alma Moreno** says she’s not ready to fall in love again.

Even when she is aware of her estranged husband’s recent brief romance with a game show host, Alma says she is not about to get even by jumping into a serious relationship. She also insists that she doesn’t have anything to admit, now that she Joey are separated. She was earlier rumored to have a young lover from a radio station in Cebu, which reportedly caused the breakup of her marriage.

“I’m not with anyone right now,” Alma claims. “I’m not ready to get involved and I don’t have anything to confirm. I’m not raring to have a boyfriend. My focus is on my children. I also want to concentrate on my career now.”

She is apparently bent on giving show biz another go. She started doing live performances and later accepted a role in an ABS-CBN soap. She also accepted the offer to star in Mel Chionglo’s “Kapalit.” Alma’s previous movie job was a minor role in a horror flick, “Multo.”

“Kapalit” is the initial venture of Jaggs Entertainment of director **Joel Lamangan** and executive producer **Edilberto Sabater**. Supervising producer is **Tatus Aldana** and producer is **Ani del Rosario**.

The movie, written by **Roy Iglesias**, is a story of betrayal and its devastating consequences.

A print ad of the movie shows Alma in a striking solo pose, accompanied by the intriguing teaser, *“Handa na ba siyang humanap ng... ‘Kapalit’?”*

MORENO. Second wind.

People think the movie imitates Alma’s personal life. But Chionglo says that more than the plot, “Kapalit” shows a “new” Alma who has remained lovely and shapely despite the passing of years.

Alma herself concedes “Kapalit” is her toughest film role. She returns to the big screen no longer as a sex goddess (who sizzled in such films as “Nympha,” “Cristina Gaston” and “Virginia P.”) but as an actress, period. Or so the movie’s drumbeaters profess.

Alma has passionate love scenes with **Jay Manalo** in “Kapalit.” But she says she didn’t have to ask permission from her estranged hubby before she did the scenes.

“Only I should set the limits to what I can do in the movies,” she says. “Of course, I won’t do anything vulgar because my five kids, especially **Mark** and **Vandolph**, will be the first ones to protest.”

Mark Anthony is Alma’s son with action star **Rudy Fernandez**, while Vandolph is her love child with comedy king **Dolphy**.

Also starring in “Kapalit” are **Victor Neri, Michelle Quizon** and **Boots Anson Roa**.

It’s still Edu

IS **Edu Manzano** leaving “The Weakest Link?”

There’s talk that Edu will resign from the primetime game show produced by Viva TV and will reportedly be replaced by comedian Allan K. But Edu’s manager **June Rufino** pointed out that Edu’s contract is co-terminus with the expiration of the franchise of “The Weakest Link,” which is in August.

That gives Edu two months to decide whether to renew his contract with Viva TV and continue hosting “The Weakest Link.”

June said this will depend on the negotiations with Viva TV. Will he be offered a bigger paycheck for the second year of the game show?

Edu has hosted a total of 130 episodes of “The Weakest Link” on IBC 13, according to June. Until he officially submits his resignation, he remains the host of the game show.

Money-making

A NUMBER of establishments have cashed in on the ongoing World Cup series by using it to lure customers. The World Cup is exclusively beamed through Dream TV, and establishments that have access to the satellite feed have also found a goldmine.

The National Sports Grill (NSG) in Greenbelt is always filled to the rafters on days when World Cup games are aired. NSG even adjusted its business hours and now opens at 9 a.m. instead of 11 a.m. There are TV sets all over the place so you won’t miss the games wherever you happen to sit in any of the restaurant’s three levels. On the second level, two giant screens are above the bar.

I was at NSG Saturday night for the quarterfinals game between Turkey and Senegal. The crowd was clapping, cheering, shouting, especially when the games went into overtime.

When NSG aired the F1 series early this year, people also filled up the venue.

Some other places, however, charge a fee for the games. The Le Boulevardier of Hotel Inter-Con charges a consumable cover of P350 if you want to watch the World Cup series. It was packed Friday night, when Germany battled the United States.

Last Saturday, during the quarterfinals game between Korea and Spain, a Korean bar along Jupiter Street in Makati charged P200 for every customer, inclusive of two drinks. The bar owner removed the tables inside the bar and put up temporary, theater-style set- up to accommodate more people.

San Mig pub in Alabang Town Center charges P300 on days the World Cup is aired live.

From the e-mail

READERS e-mailed reactions to **Pops Fernandez**’s latest album, “The Way I Feel Inside,” which I wrote about last Monday in this column (June 24, 2002).

Wrote **Prudence Go**: “I love her album. I got a cassette tape for the car, which serves as my ‘travel companion’ to the province. I have to buy her CD next time. I love the opening song and the title of the album, ‘The Way I Feel Inside.’

“I’m so excited about the whole thing, especially after Pops guested on ‘Martin Late @ Night.’ But why did she not appear on ‘Asap’ last Sunday?

“Where were you, girl? Did she go on leave after her so many guest appearances on other TV shows like ‘The Buzz,’ ‘Sis,’ ‘Talk TV,’ ‘Straight Talk’ with Cito Beltran and her concert in Bataan early this month? Why?”

* * *

From **Bettina**: “Pops’ songs are so full of emotions. They’re perfectly suited to her, her voice and her style. Her versatility counts.”

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Memorable movie themes compiled in one soundtrack

WHAT do Queen, Aaliyah, Duran Duran, Roxette, The Rolling Stones and Nat King Cole have in common?

Aside from the fact that they're all influential musical artists of the last century, they have all been part of some of the most unforgettable Hollywood movies by recording memorable themes for the film soundtrack.

The box office hit "Space Jam" will be remembered not just because of basketball icon Michael Jordan and toon superstar Bugs Bunny. The movie will always be identified with the hit song, "I Believe I Can Fly," written and performed by R&B artist R Kelly.

"Bridget Jones's Diary," starring favorite girl-next-door, Renee Zellwegger, had the remake of Gerri Halliwell's "It's Raining Men" and Robbie Williams' mellow, Sinatra-inspired "Have You Met Miss Jones."

Meanwhile, Sinatra's fellow Rat Pack buddy Dean Martin, immortalized "Ain't That A Kick in the Head" for the George Clooney-Jennifer Lopez flick, "Out of Sight."

Nat King Cole, also one of the world's favorite crooners, is also best remembered for the song, "Stardust," the other theme from the classic love story, "Sleepless in Seattle." The movie, which starred Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan, was a spin off from the unforgettable Hollywood classic, "An Affair to Remember."

"You Sexy Thing" by Hot Chocolate made it to the soundtrack of "The Full Monty," the funny and risqué story of jobless, middle-aged men-turned-strip dancers.

The memorable movie songs, along with many others, are compiled in one CD, "A Night at the Movies," the ultimate soundtrack album released by EMI-Virgin Philippines.

The compilation package contains 20 tracks from 20 favorite movies. Selections include Queen's "A Kind of Magic" from "Highlander," Kate Winslet's current radio hit "What If" from "A Christmas Carol," Lenny Kravitz's "American Woman" from "Austin Powers II," Tina Turner's "Goldeneye" theme from the James Bond movie of the same title, Roxette's "It Must Have Been Love" from "Pretty Woman," "Peter Gabriel's "Don't Give Up" from "The Bone Collector" and Duran Duran's early '90s hit "A View to a Kill" from the movie of the same title.

Also in the lineup are George Michael's "I Can't Make You Love Me" from "Maybe Baby," Aaliyah's "Try Again" from "Romeo Must Die," Atomic Kitten's "Eternal Flame" from "The Parole Officer," Joe Cocker's "You Can Leave Your Hat" from "9 1/2 Weeks," Moby's "Why Does My Heart Feel So Bad" from "The Next Best Thing," The Rolling Stones' "Jump on Top of Me" from "Pret-a-Porter" and Paul McCartney's "Young Boy" from "Father's Day."

KATE Winslet sings the current radio hit, "What If," from "A Christmas Carol."

Jessica reports on Ecleo murder

JESSICA Soho files a report on the circumstances surrounding the death of Alona Bacolod-Ecleo, 28-year-old wife of Philippine Benevolent Missionaries (PBMA) "Supreme Leader" Ruben Ecleo Jr., on "Jessica Soho Reports," 11 tonight on GMA 7.

Alona's decomposing body was found inside a garbage bag early January.

A few days ago, members of Alona's family — her father, mother, brother and sister — and a neighbor were gunned down by an alleged member of Ecleo's organization.

The massacre was quickly followed by a gun battle between the PBMA and law enforcers before Ecleo's mother negotiated for his surrender.

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P 13
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MINORITY REPORT
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Crossover bar tour with Jaya

ANOTHER party is brewing from the creative minds of 105.1 Crossover as part of their monthly concert series, "Crossover Live Bar Tour."

The first edition of the series will take center stage in one of the hottest gimmick spots today, Central Plaza Eastwood City Walk Libis, 9 p.m. on June 26. Featured performers are Queen of Soul Jaya and Q&A band.

Jaya, who did a successful "Crossover Presents" concert at Mandarin Captain's Bar last month, will regale the crowd with a repertoire of favorite Crossover and party tunes.

Q&A band will render music from the '60s and '70s.

Tune in to 105.1 Crossover for details on how to get free invitations.

The special show is presented by Shell Helix with Standard Chartered Bank, Globenet, Bitstop Computers, Ford Motor Philippines. It is also supported by Charmee Feminine Napkins and Nappa Bistro and Bar.

Side A performs at Hard Rock Café

YES! FM 101.1 celebrates the month of June with a special concert featuring Side A band, June 29 at Hard Rock Café in Makati City.

Listeners can win free entrance tickets by tuning in to Yes! FM and wait for the dj's signal to call the station at 840-4747.

Yes! FM 101.1 is a member station of Manila Broadcasting Company (MBC), the largest radio network in the country and in Asia.

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MINORITY REPORT - P13 12:10, 3:10, 6:10, 9:10	**MONSTER'S BALL - R18** 12:15, 2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 9:50	**MINORITY REPORT - P13** 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10

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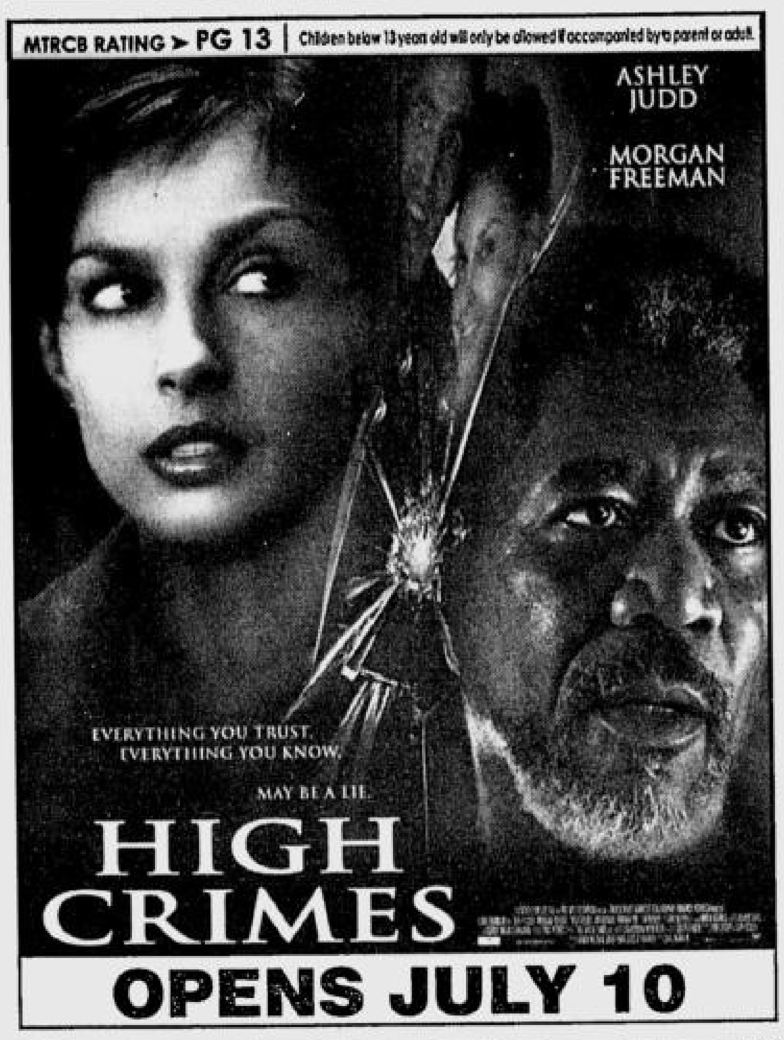
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THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

ARANETA CENTER THEATERS 911-3101	
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-1	FOREVERMORE
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2	MAGKAPATID
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	MINORITY REPORT
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	SUM OF ALL FEARS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	MINORITY REPORT
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	SCOOBY DOO
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7 (DOLBY)	A WALK TO REMEMBER
FARMERS PLAZA-1 (DOLBY)	TAMPISAW
FARMERS PLAZA-2 (DOLBY)	MINORITY REPORT
FIESTA CARNIVAL	
NEW FRONTIER	
MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	KASIBULAN / TEMPTATION NIGHT
ODEON	MINORITY REPORT
ODEON-2	DISKARTE
ROBEN	TAMPISAW
TANDEM-1	MAMASAN
TANDEM-2	MONSTER'S BALL
TIMES	COLLATERAL DAMAGE / MIMIC-2
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	CLOSED
ACT-4	CLOSED
CORONET-2	ORIGINAL SIN
QUEZON-1	TAMPISAW
REMAR	MINORITY REPORT
REMAR-2	TAMPISAW
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	FOREVERMORE
B	TAMPISAW
C	SUPER B
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	AMELIE
CINEMA-2	MINORITY REPORT
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	DISKARTE
CINEMA-2	TAMPISAW
CINEMA-3	FOREVERMORE
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	MINORITY REPORT
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	FOREVERMORE
CINEMA-6	MONSTER'S BALL
CINEMA-7	MAGKAPATID
CINEMA-8	A WALK TO REMEMBER
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	MINORITY REPORT
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	MINORITY REPORT
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	SCOOBY DOO
CINEMA-12	SUM OF ALL FEARS
CINEMA-14	AMELIE
CINEMA-15	FOREVERMORE
LORES	
CINEMA-2	CLOSED
CINEMA-3	CLOSED
POWER PLANT CINEMA	
CINEMA-1	LIFE OR SOMETHING LIKE IT
CINEMA-2	SCOOBY DOO
CINEMA-3	SUM OF ALL FEARS
CINEMA-4	BAD COMPANY
CINEMA-5	MONSTER'S BALL
CINEMA-6	SUM OF ALL FEARS
UNIWIDE METROMALL	
(LAS PIÑAS)	
CINEMA-1	
CINEMA-2	
CINEMA-4	
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARAÑAQUE)	
CINEMA-1	ALIPIN NG TUKSO
CINEMA-2	THE OTHER SIDE OF LOVE
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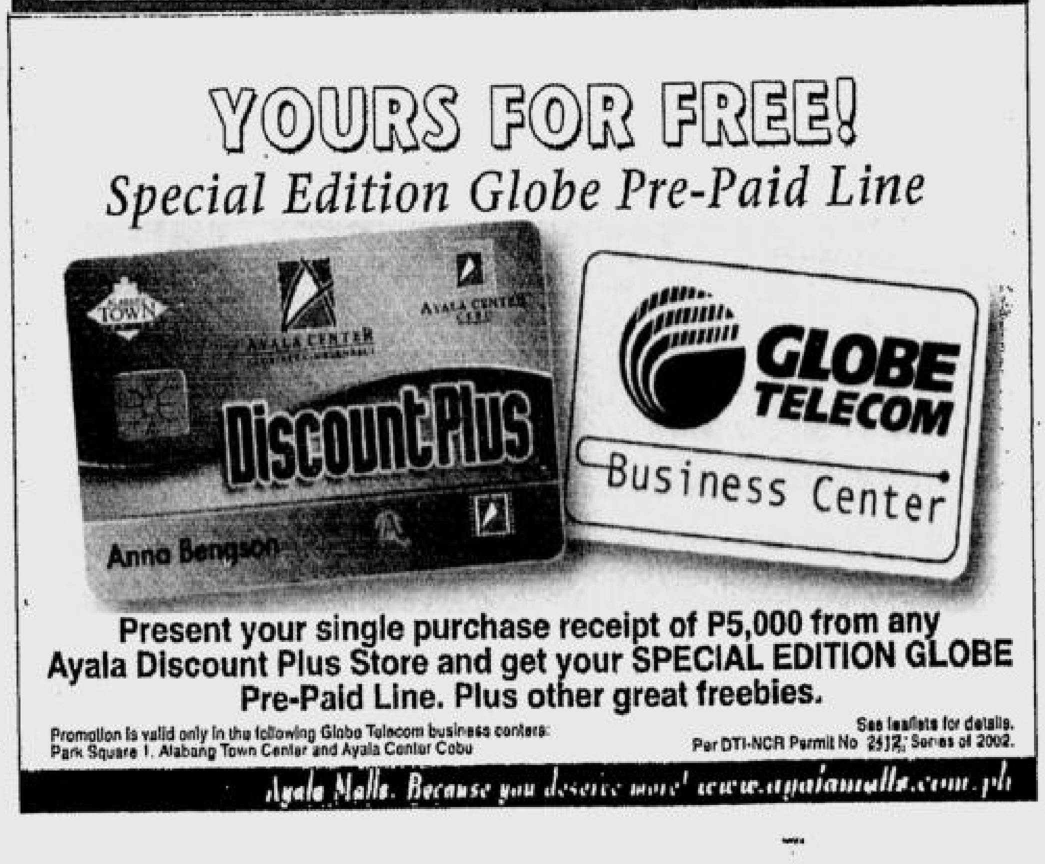
G1 GLORIETTA 1	G4 GLORIETTA 4	GB1 GREENBELT 1	GB3 GREENBELT 3	ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER
1 THE SUM OF ALL FEARS	1 SCOOBY DOO	1 SCOOBY DOO	1 SUM OF ALL FEARS 1:00, 3:35, 6:10, 8:45, 11:20	1 MINORITY REPORT
	2 SUM OF ALL FEARS			
2 MINORITY REPORT	3 MINORITY REPORT 11:40, 2:30, 5:20, 8:10, 11:00	2 MINORITY REPORT	2 MINORITY REPORT 12:00, 2:50, 5:40, 8:30, 11:20	2 SUM OF ALL FEARS
3 FOREVER-MORE	4 FOREVERMORE	3 SUM OF ALL FEARS	3 AMELIE 0:50, 1:20, 3:50, 6:20, 8:50, 11:20	3 MINORITY REPORT
	5 AMELIE		4 MONSTER'S BALL 1:00, 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 11:00	4 AMELIE
4 SCOOBY DOO	6 MINORITY REPORT	[illegible] MARTIN NIEVERA BACK ONSTAGE 9:00 PM June 28 & 29	5 SCOOBY DOO :00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00, 11:00	5 SCOOBY DOO
	7 A WALK TO REMEMBER			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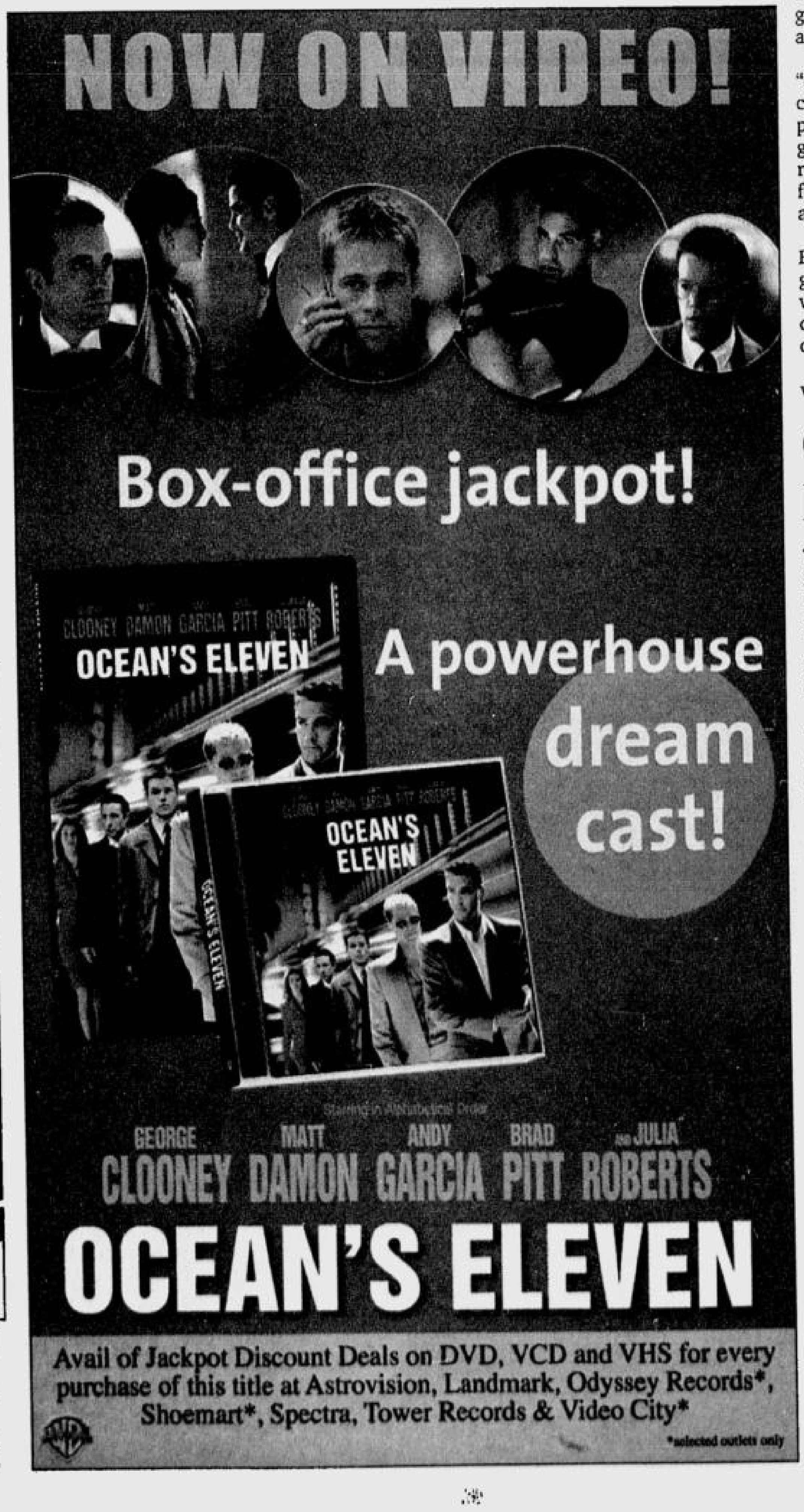

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Fresh star combinations click again with moviegoers

VIEWFINDE

Nestor U. Torre

THE good showing at the tills of local movies like "Magkapatid," "Diskarte" and "Kilabot at Kembot," indicates that fresh star combinations are clicking again with moviegoers.

"Magkapatid" featured the first-time pairing of Megastar **Sharon Cuneta** and Drama Princess **Judy Ann Santos**, and the movie enjoyed the patronage of their separate legions of fans, thus doing SRO business at the box office.

"Diskarte" had for its leads Action Prince **Rudy Fernandez** and young sexpot **Ara Mina**, but didn't benefit from the "double audience" effect because a generally male viewership was attracted by its combination of action and sex.

Ditto for "Kilabot at Kembot" with **Bong Revilla** and **Assunta de Rossi**. All the same, both films also did well at the tills, due mainly to their sex quotient, which incidentally required their male leads to bare more than what used to be thought "proper" for macho action leads.

The fact that both movies did good business indicates that the viewing public has changed its mind about action stars disrobing. We trust, though, that this doesn't become a trend, because quite a number of our action leads are overweight, and wouldn't exactly be a pretty sight in the buff!

But the big deal here is the hit Sharon-Judy Ann combination. Its success in "Magkapatid" has prompted producers to think of other "senior-junior" actress combinations.

What about **Vilma Santos** and **Jolina Magdangal**? **Lorna Tolentino** and Assunta de Rossi? **Dina Bonnevie** and **Kristine Hermosa**? **Hilda Koronel** and **Sunshine Dizon**? **Zsa Zsa Padilla** and **Jessa Zaragosa**? **Nora Aunor** and **Matet de Leon**—or other combinations thereof?

That last pairing, if showcased in a well-conceptualized production, could become another hit, revive Nora's movie career, and give a much-needed boost to her adoptive daughter's popularity.

Star combinations have been "events" on the film scene for decades. **Fernando Poe, Jr.** is a prime exponent of this practice of getting two big stars with separate followings to topbill a movie for that extra-profitable "double-audience" effect.

When **Nino Muhlach** was the Boy Wonder of local movies, FPJ got the talented tyke to co-star with him in an action-comedy-drama vehicle, and the film became a major blockbuster.

The same thing happened when FPJ co-starred with **Maricel Soriano**. And, in other films, with Sharon Cuneta and Judy Ann Santos. What goes around, comes around!

However, when FPJ made a movie with Vilma Santos some years ago, both superstars were shocked when viewers didn't patronize the quickie production.

That must have been when FPJ reassessed his career and production options and vowed to himself that, from that moment on, he would produce only well-conceptualized and carefully-produced productions that would no longer take the local movie audience for granted.

Indeed, in recent years, many of our big stars have also learned that humbling lesson: that big star value alone is no longer enough "insurance" to make a film a hit.

This has resulted in quite a number of our major stars going jobless in the movies, prompting them to act on television to maintain their stellar lifestyles.

Even for younger stars who used to be bankable, success has been confoundingly elusive. When he does "straight action," **Robin Padilla** is no longer the reliable major draw he used to be. This has prompted him to go "non-action," with much better results.

That's why the current success of big stellar combinations has heartened the local film industry, and has been seen as an encouraging indication that the industry is starting to get out of its year-long slump.

We trust that this optimistic reading is accurate, but we hope that our producers have learned their lesson and will continue to come up with fresh concepts and non-quickie productions that no longer take the Filipino audience for granted.

On TV today

AT 8 p.m. today on the National Geographic Channel, watch "Dogs with Jobs," a delightful series on man's best friend and its various endeavors.

Meet Bruce Wayne, a dog trained to locate bat colonies, and George, a German Shepherd and Speedy, an English springer spaniel, as they patrol London's Square Mile bank district.

At 1:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Star World, catch the replays of **Celine Dion**'s "A New Day Has Come" concert.

Center for Pop Music holds production concert

THE CENTER for Pop Music Philippines, the country's first training in pop singing, will present its students in a production concert, "Lakbay Musika 2002," June 30, at the Cultural Center of the Philippines.

The concert caps the 18th anniversary celebration of the Center for Pop Music Philippines. It will feature the hits from the '60s to the present.

Butch Albarracin, founder and president of the Center for Pop Music Philippines, said that the concert provides exposure for students in theater arts, voice and stage performance, harmony, choreography and teamwork.

The Center for Pop Music Philippines was founded 18 years ago with the advent of minus-ones, karaoke and sing-along joints. Seeing the need for a training school for singing enthusiasts, Albarracin established his first studio in the garage of his residence in Quezon City.

From the garage, the Center for Pop Music Philippines grew into 10 branches over the years. To date, it has branches in Cubao, Makati, Parañaque, Las Piñas, Marikina, Lagro, Roces Ave. (QC), San Pedro (Laguna), Dasmariñas (Cavite) and Cebu City.

The Center for Pop has trained unknown individuals who became singing stars such as Roselle Nava, Dessa, Geneva Cruz, Cookie Chua, Kyla, and four "Miss Saigon" performers—Ma-an Dionisio (Canada), Joanne Ampil (Sydney), Carla Guevarra (London) and Ima Castro (Manila).

Details of "Lakbay Musika 2002" can be obtained through the Center for Pop Music Philippines at 73 Ermin Garcia St., Cubao, QC. For inquiries, call 727-5293 or 411-7310.

Gary V performs at Virgin Café

LAST June 14, Gary V. performed to an SRO crowd at Virgin Café Tomas Morato. Mr. Pure Energy packed the venue and his one-and-a-half hour show exceeded to more than two hours due to the crowd's persistent demand for encores.

Guest artists Kyla and Zsa-Zsa Padilla joined Gary onstage and sang a duet which they also recorded in Gary's latest album, "One2One."

Gary also sang his hits like "Growing Up," "Reaching Out," "Warrior is a Child" and "Sana Maulit Muli."

The success of the show prompted Virgin Café to bring back Gary in a repeat of his live concert on June 28, Vina Morales as special guest. For inquiries, call 373-8766 or 926-8039.

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Gov't rejects all treasury bill bids

By Clarissa S. Batino

FOR the first time since November last year, the Bureau of Treasury rejected all bids in yesterday's T-bill auction saying the rates offered were too high.

The BTr said the move was aimed at preventing unreasonable increases in the cost of government borrowings. This, it added, should also send a clear signal to the market that the government was not desperate for cash.

Deputy Treasurer Mina Figueroa said the government could afford to reject the banks' "throw-away" bids given the P48 billion it had raised from the recent issuance of three- and five-year retail treasury bonds or RTBs.

The bids, if accepted by the auction committee led by the BTr, would have jacked up by 30.3 basis points the yield on the 91-day T-bills to 5.081 percent. The rates on the 182-day and 364-day notes would have also increased by 58.9 points and 124.8 points, respectively, to 6.325 percent and 7.104 percent.

Not only were the banks' bids deemed high, they were also considered too thin, said the BTr. The offers of P2.35 billion, P760 million, and P515 million fell way below the auction size of P3.5 billion for the benchmark debt notes, P3 billion for the six-month bills, and P2.5 billion for the one-year papers.

"The market was testing whether we will accept their throw-away bids especially now that they are running out of liquidity because of their RTB placements," she noted.

Bids for the benchmark 91-day bill reached as high as 5.7 percent while those for the one-year debt notes reached 8 percent.

Figueroa said the Treasury would review the government's borrowing program for the third quarter to see whether it could cancel some bond issuance or reject bids in the auctions.

It is also inclined to review a recent move to increase the treasury bill volume by P500 million to P9.5 billion in the third quarter in light of the government's program to raise P39 billion from the domestic market during the period.

The government borrows P9 billion through the treasury bills and about P6 billion from the bond market every two weeks.

Figueroa said the retail bonds could have absorbed most of the excess liquidity that the banks were holding. With sufficient liquidity in the system, traders said the interest rates as reflected by the treasury auctions would definitely start going up more aggressively.

"There was a time when banks had no choice but to place their excess funds on low-earning government securities. But now that most have placed their bets on the RTBs, the government no longer have that psychological advantage," said a trader from a foreign bank.

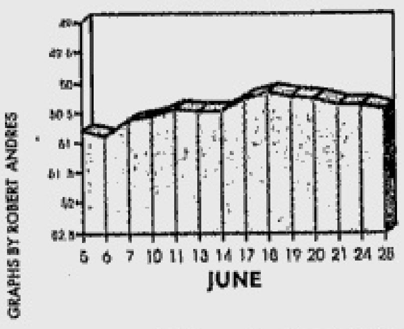
The deputy treasurer admitted that the market remained con-

GOV'T REJECTS/ B4

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES

PESO - DOLLAR



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As of 5 p.m., June 25, 2002

¥ 121.66 = $1
As of 5 p.m., June 25, 2002

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STOCK MARKET

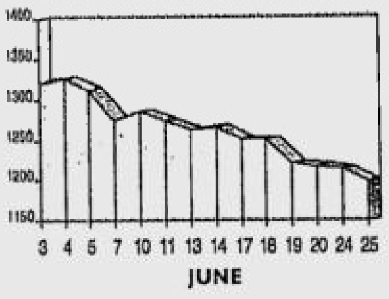
Shares end at new 5-mo low

THE STOCK market headed lower again yesterday, closing below the psychologically important 1,200-point mark at a new five-month low, as investors dumped several key index heavyweights, traders said.

They added that the slide was exacerbated by further weak turnover, which after slumping to its lowest level since October on Monday, was again insipid at P194.25 million from the previous P176.10 million.

Reuters

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



(See stock market report on Page B4)

Gov't urged to speed up reforms in SSS

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

WATSON Wyatt, a leading American pension fund expert, yesterday cautioned the Macapagal administration against procrastinating the implementation of reforms in the state-run pension funds, specifically the Social Security System.

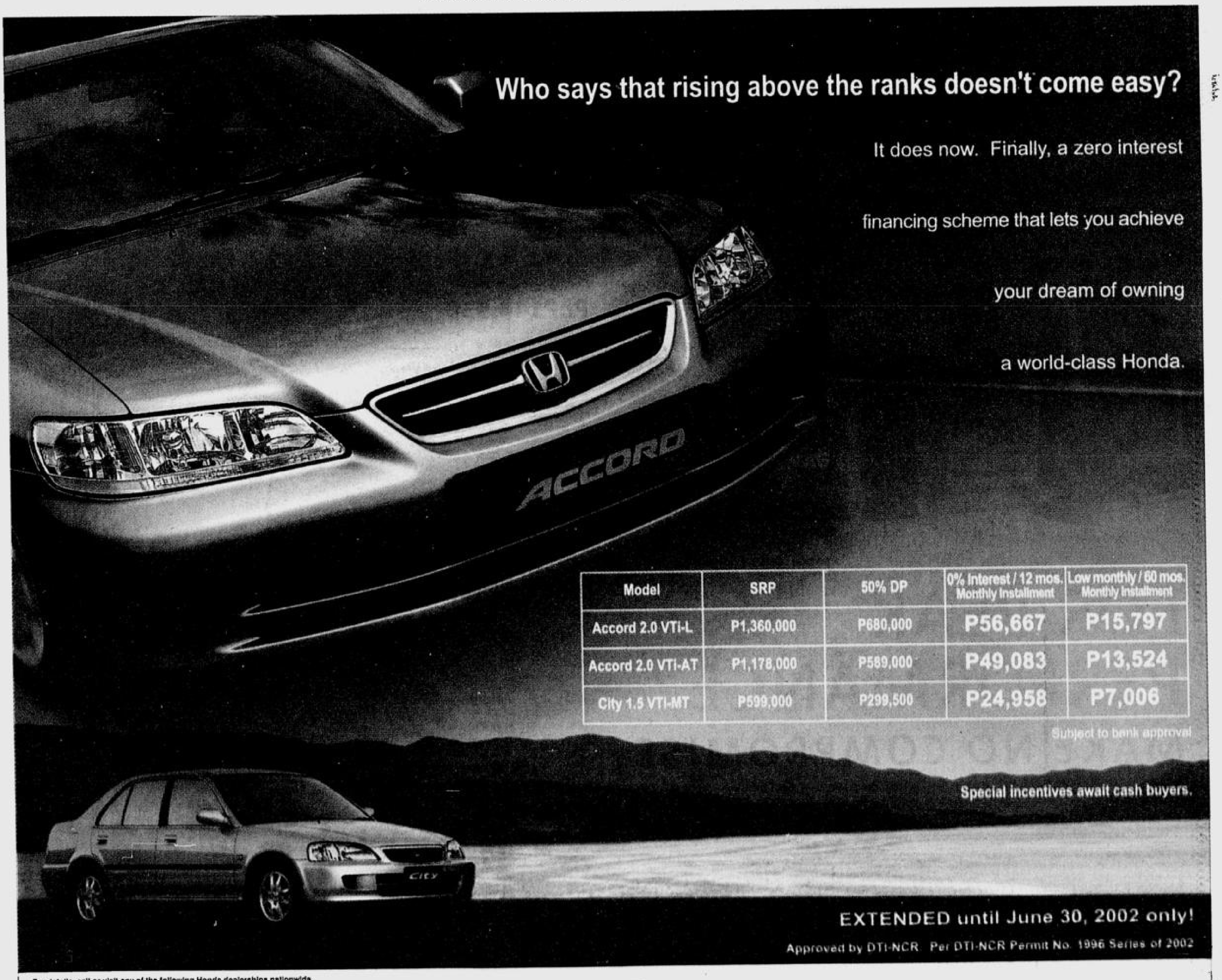
The longer the government delays the reforms needed to avert the collapse of the pensions funds, the bigger the losses and the fewer the options it stands to face later, Watson Wyatt president and CEO John J. Haley said

Haley said the government would have no choice but to shoulder the funding deficit if its pension funds would go bankrupt. He said it was important to carry out the reforms, which include cutting down benefits and raising the members' contributions, as soon as possible even if the political pressure against such moves were too strong.

An actuarial evaluation made by the SSS in 1999 showed that its funds would last only up to 2015 if pensions were kept steady during the period. The same review made five years earlier showed that the funds would last 2040.

Watson Wyatt Manila director Coralyn G. del Rosario said the deteriorating funds were due to benefit enhancements without increase in the contribution rates, poor participation and compliance (only a third of 24 million

GOV'T URGED/ B3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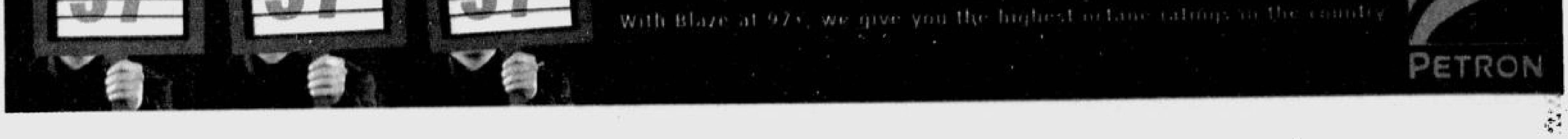
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Hanford men's underwear: Proudly Filipino

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

SUCCESS STORY

ENTREPRENEUR Te Bi came to the Philippines when he was eight years old to seek greener pastures.

He came here without his family; an elderly companion saw him through the journey from his native Fujian, China, to Manila. Te Bi, however, had the firm resolve to build a better life for himself, so he worked—and worked hard.

It was no surprise then that at just 25 years old, he and a partner were able to scramble enough cash to set up Hanford Manufacturing in busy Juan Luna Street, Binondo in 1954.

Almost 50 years later, the small backyard operation that he set up with only 10 employees, including himself, grew to become Mansfield International Inc., the country's largest underwear manufacturing company.

Beginnings

Victor Te, who succeeded Te Bi as head of the company, said his father had always been involved in the clothing business, and he stumbled upon the idea of manufacturing underwear under the Hanford brand.

Te Bi thought it was a good venture because he realized that there was no local company selling underwear. Filipinos at that time were either using the *"karsunsilyo,"* the so-called Yankee or boxer shorts, or Hanes and Jockey briefs.

"It was a small operation at the start. It was an apartment type of factory, and we lived upstairs. My father did the cutting and the selling. He was involved in all parts of the business," Te told the INQUIRER.

Among its first customers were the department stores that used to line Avenida, now known as Rizal Ave., and Escolta, which was the center of retail trade in the 1950s. Outlets included such stores as Good Earth, Otis and Syvel's.

Te Bi knew the clothing business inside out so he grabbed the chance of owning the company 100 percent when his partner decided to sell him his shares in the 1960s.

Getting control of the entire operations made Te Bi even more aggressive. He experimented with different styles and variants, diversifying his product range to increase its share of the market.

From a small backyard operation, Mansfield grew into a major manufacturer in the 1960s, with its own factory in Malabon producing a whole line of under-fashion for retail outlets all over the Philippines.

PBA tie-up

Te said it was smooth sailing for Mansfield through the 1970s and early 1980s, as the quality and varied styles of its products made it a favorite among Filipinos.

Most of the '80s, however, brought increased competition not only from local companies but also from foreign underwear brands that invaded the Philippines.

Te said Mansfield first strove to improve the quality of its products to make them better or at least as good as their foreign counterparts. It then invested in a more strategic marketing campaign.

Mansfield moved its operations again in 1994 to Quezon City from Malabon, but it kept its old plant for sentimental reasons.

One of its major steps to beat competition was a tie-up with the Philippine Basketball Association in 1987. Hanford became known as the "official underwear" of the PBA.

"It proved to be a very positive step for us, and it went well with our thrust to make our brand more dynamic. The partnership has been good which is why we are still known as the official brief of the PBA until now," Te said.

Genuine Filipino

Hanford also anchored its strategy on making Hanford known as a genuine Filipino product, one that people could be proud of.

Various business organizations in Europe and the United States have cited Mansfield's products for product excellence. These include the International Award for Commercial Prestige (Madrid), Golden Europe Award for Best Quality (Paris) and the International America Award for Quality and Excellence (New York).

"We got celebrity endorsers to complete the strategy. These include Carlos Agassi and Cesar Montano. They have been very effective," Te said.

From producing just a Hanford line of products, Mansfield launched a new brand called Hartmann, which was positioned as the more upscale brand.

"I challenged myself to produce a world-class product, and I believe we have it with Hartmann," Te said.

The Hartmann line of underwear for both boys and men are more expensive because the fabric used is a finer kind of cotton, and workmanship is literally a cut above the rest. Products include boxer shorts, supporters and undershirts to add to the underwear. Celebrity endorsers include South Border's Luke Mejares, basketball player Alex Compton and actress Patricia Javier.

"We wanted to project a global image because Mansfield is very much a global company. Right now, Hanford is exported to the Middle East and we are looking at other areas," Te said.

THE P.U.B.
Power Underwear Brands

THE P.U.B., Hanford's newest venture.

Preparing for competition

The Mansfield group has tightened its quality control and has aggressively gone into marketing because of the threat of competition from China.

He said Chinese-made products cost only a third of Hanford's. The only way to counter the competition is to improve on quality and bank on the "buy-Filipino" mentality, he said.

"We should be proud of Filipino products. That is the message we want to share," Te said.

Te's father is now semi-retired, but the company he built remains very dynamic, looking for new ways to improve the quality and design of its products.

Mansfield's latest project is the P.U.B. novelty fashion boutique at the Power Plant Mall, Rockwell Center, Makati.

Te says the novelty store that sells products of top underwear companies including Hanford is Mansfield's first foray into retail.

"The idea is to put all the top underwear brands in one store," Te adds. Aside from Hanford and Hartmann, other brands to be featured in The P.U.B., which stands for "power underwear brands," include Victoria's Secret, La Perla, Valentino, Tommy Hilfiger, Hanes, DKNY and Abercrombie and Fitch.

"Eventually if things work out, we will put up more stores like these. We always have to be a step ahead of competition," Te said.

---

7 foreign firms in Napocor short list for $500-M float

THE NATIONAL Power Corp. and Asian Development Bank have come up with a short list of seven foreign investment banks seeking to handle Napocor's $500-million, long-term bond issue.

Market sources said the companies that made it to the list were ABN Amro, Credit Suisse First Boston, Deutsche Bank, HSBC, Lehman Brothers, Morgan Stanley and Salomon Smith Barney.

Napocor and the ADB will trim the list further to choose the underwriter or anyone that will commit to deliver proceeds of the bond issue to the government regardless of who buys them.

The ADB will provide a partial guarantee to bring down the cost of Napocor's fund-raising.

Unlike last year, when it had to rode piggyback on the national government's borrowings, Napocor decided to go directly to the market.

A source said Napocor was looking to borrow about $500 million from the 15- to 20-year bond market.

Napocor is trying to raise as much as $1.1 billion for its funding needs this year.

The power firm's financing requirement this year went up after President Macapagal-Arroyo cut its rates to 40 centavos per kilowatt-hour on account of widespread criticism of the purchased power adjustment mechanism.

The rates cut is seen leading to $300 million in annual budget shortfall for Napocor.

Napocor attempted to borrow about $500 million without the national government's help in February but was prevented from doing so, as investors required a premium of as much as a percentage point over rates used in the government's fund-raising activities.

Clarissa S. Batino

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COMPAQ

Gov't urged . . .

From page B1

members contribute); subsidized interest rates on housing and members' loans; decreasing interest rates and investment loans, and increasing life expectancy.

Del Rosario said the SSS move to raise its members' contributions by 16 percent (with no annual pension increases) should help avert the projected funding crisis.

Based on his experience, Haley said it was easier to raise contributions than reducing benefits, especially in the Philippines where the members' dues are the lowest in the region. Even if contributions were raised to 16 percent, this was still below the 18 percent to 30 percent range of contributions in the region.

Haley said the Philippines had the same issues faced by the United States such as long term funding problem (social security funds are expected to run out in 2029) and low rates of personal savings.

He said that even if half of the current shortfall was covered by increasing taxes, benefits would have to be reduced by a minimum of 15 percent to 20 percent to bring the social security into place.

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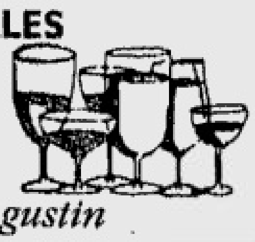


Victor C. Agustin

THE MANILA Polo Club and a group of conscientious objector-members have agreed to form a fact-finding group under ex-Trade Secretary Rizalino Navarro to examine the club's books.

The MPC board nominated past presidents Leocadio Dominguez, Felix Amparo, and Eduardo Yap while Navarro himself nominated Alfonso Casimiro, Frank Holz, and Dieter Reichert for the fact-finding team that will examine the club's capital expenditures, computerization, and associate membership fees.

The Holy Week retrenchment of the entire F&B department and its replacement by an outside concessionaire, an issue that triggered a massive outpouring of sympathy for the displaced workers, has apparently been consigned to history's dustbin.

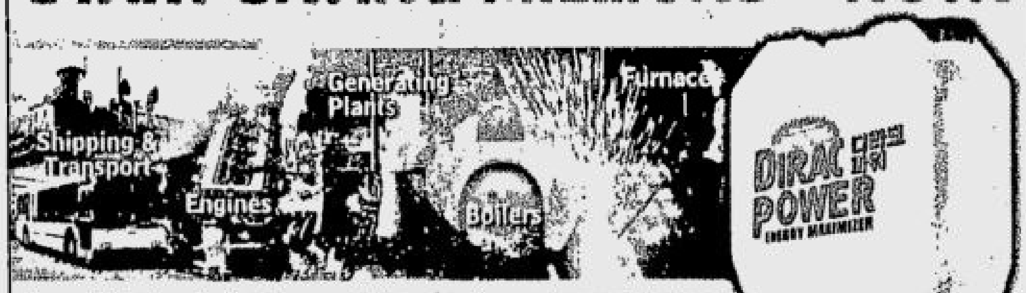
In addition to the six, three other names will be mutually chosen by today. With the selection finished, Navarro promised to hit the ground running and conclude the examination by July 15.

Navarro's allies in the CCA-run Tower Club, ex-Foreign Secretary Roberto Romulo and ex-Central Bank Governor Jose Cuisia, have raised the issue of "good governance and moral regeneration" as campaign slogan in an effort to capture the MPC board in the August elections.

The slogan has so annoyed the current MPC board, given its subliminal suggestion that the current board has been cooking the club's books or, worse, are moral degenerates.

"Your source is greatly mistaken and unfair to me and to the Romulo and

COCKTALES/ B5



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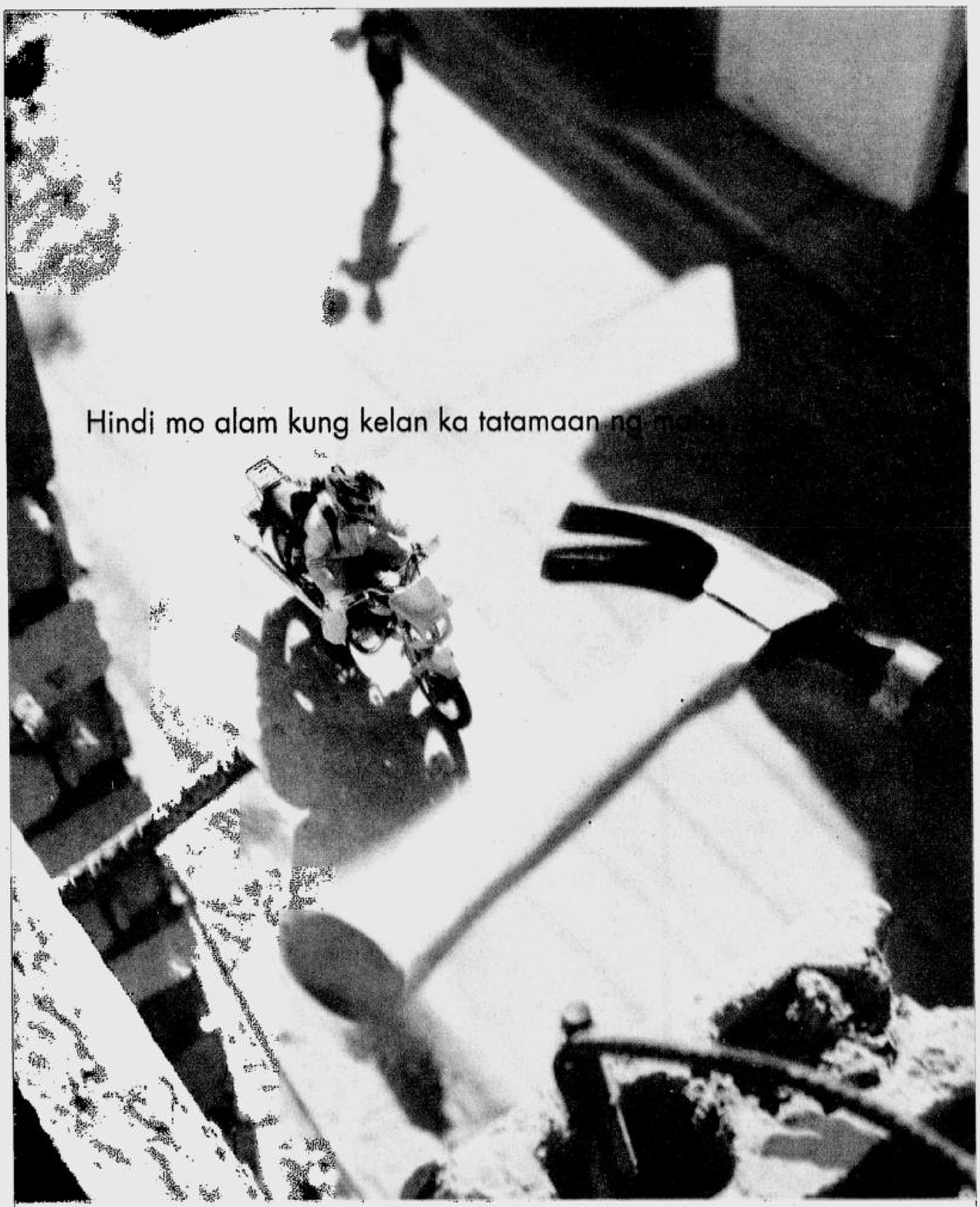
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"CLASSICS NEVER DIE - THEY JUST GET BETTER!" *RJ Jacinto returns on stage friday night June 28 at EDSA Shangri-la Main Lobby after recuperating from an angioplasty procedure. The Guitarman, main man of retro and rock & roll icon will be joined by violin legend* ***John Lesaca****, as special guest. The EDSA Shangrila hotel will accept reservations at tel. no.* ***634-7309****. Showtime* ***8:30 pm*** *every friday.*

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PNB sees profitability by 2006

By Elena R. Torrijos

CASH-STRAPPED Philippine National Bank, the country's fourth-largest private bank, said yesterday it expected to return to profitability by 2006.

PNB president Lorenzo Tan told reporters after a shareholders meeting that the bank expected to post a net income of P700 million to P800 million in the fourth year of its five-year rehabilitation plan set to be implemented this year.

The bank signed last month a rehabilitation agreement that allowed the partial restructuring, debt-to-equity conversion and payment-in-kind of its debts to the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas and Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp.

PNB's forecast assumes that its re-capitalization will proceed smoothly.

It also takes into account the sale of PNB's 85,000-square-meter head office in Manila in the third year of its rehabilitation program. The property has an appraised value of P6.5 billion.

Tan said it looked like the bank's non-performing loans had bottomed out. Its NPL ratio in the first quarter was at about half of all loans from 53 percent at the end of 2001.

"We are expecting some reduction in June," Tan added.

The bank expects to reduce its NPLs to 39 percent at the end of this year.

"This year, we project that the bank's past due (loan) ratio may be brought down to 39 percent, and that as a result of this effort, we project a lower net loss of about P2.9 billion," Tan earlier told shareholders.

The company reported a net loss of P4.13 billion last year, below its P5.97-billion loss in 2000.

Tan said PNB would submit details of its rehabilitation plan to the central bank within the next two weeks.

The plan outlines the strategies and targets PNB will pursue to achieve profitability and reverse its record of having the biggest NPL ratio in the industry.

The plan follows last month's agreement between major PNB shareholder Lucio Tan and government representatives to help the bank return to profitability.

The agreement increased the state's stake in the bank to 45 percent from 16 percent while tobacco and airline tycoon Lucio Tan's stake in PNB was cut to 45 percent from 68 percent.

Under the deal, about P7.8 billion of the P23.9-billion debt owed by PNB to the government was converted into equity. A total of P10 billion will be off-set against loans taken by government agencies from PNB while the rest of the debt will be repaid over 10 years.

GG & A Club Shares

SEC License Broker #007575 * As of June 26, 2002

CLUB	BUYER	SELLER
Alabang Country Club "A" (Filipino)	1,500,000	1,650,000
Alabang Country Club "B" (Foreigner)	-	2,000,000
Baguio Country Club	700,000	740,000
Calatagan Golf Club "A"	80,000	100,000
Calatagan Golf Club "B"	-	110,000
Camp John Hay	250,000	300,000
Canlubang	500,000	600,000
Canyonwoods	Please Call	200,000
Capitol Hills	-	120,000
Celebrity Sports Club	-	180,000
Eagle Ridge "A"/"B"/"C"	Please Call	Please Call
Eastridge "A"	-	200,000
Evercrest "A"	-	100,000
Forest Hills "A"	200,000	220,000
Forest Hills "B"	230,000	250,000
Forest Hills "C"	250,000	260,000
Makati Sports Club "A"	250,000	280,000
Makati Sports Club "B"	Please Call	-
Manila Golf (Corporate)	-	14,000,000
Manila Golf (Individual)	Please Call	14,000,000
Manila Polo	2,750,000	2,850,000
Manila Southwoods "A"	Please Call	650,000
Manila Southwoods "B"	700,000	Please Call
Metropolitan Club "A"	-	120,000
Montemar (Individual)	30,000	40,000
Montemar (Corp)	50,000	-
Mt. Malarayat (Corporate)	-	550,000
Orchard Golf Club "A"	200,000	250,000
Orchard Golf Club "B"	-	250,000
Orchard Golf Club "C"	-	Please Call
Pueblo de Oro "A"/"B"/"C"	-	Please Call
Puerto Azul	-	125,000
Quezon City Sports Club	200,000	220,000
Riviera Golf & Country Club "A"	-	Please Call
Rockwell	350,000	450,000
Sherwood Hills "A"	-	100,000
Sta. Elena "A"	1,625,000	1,850,000
Sta. Elena "B"	-	2,100,000
Subic Bay Yacht (Corporate)	-	300,000
Subic Bay Yacht (Individual)	-	170,000
Tagaytay Country Club	400,000	450,000
Tagaytay Highlands	800,000	875,000
Tagaytay Midlands	800,000	850,000
The Country Club	Please Call	Please Call
Valle Verde (Individual)	150,000	180,000
Valley Golf	270,000	-
Wack-Wack Golf Club	6,800,000	7,500,000

PLAYING RIGHTS (Available Lessors)

Alabang "A"	25,000	Mimosa Golf	25,000
Calatagan "A"	10,000	Orchard "A"	30,000
Canlubang	60,000	Riviera "A"	15,000
Eagleridge	15,000	Sta. Elena	60,000
Eastridge "A"	20,000	Tagaytay CC	20,000
Forest Hills	30,000	Tagaytay Golf	45,000
Manila Southwoods	20,000	Tagaytay Mid.	35,000
Makati Sports "A"	25,000	Valley Golf	20,000
Manila Golf	300,000	Wack-Wack	90,000

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Coyiuto set to rock PSE boat—again

By Doris C. Dumlao

FOR the first time since an election squabble broke out in the Philippine Stock Exchange in March, five directors led by veteran stockbroker Robert Coyiuto Jr. are ready to return to the board and exercise their voting powers.

Coyiuto, who was in Hong Kong yesterday, confirmed that his group would attend a special PSE board meeting today.

He added that he and four other PSE directors were drafting a statement to be distributed to stock exchange members explaining their decision.

Coyiuto earlier lost his bid for PSE chairmanship to archrival Vivian Yuchengco.

Coyiuto, who was PSE chair in 1994, has the support of PSE directors Eddie Gobing of Lucky Securities Inc., Federico Lim of Belson Securities Inc., Harry Liu of Summit Securities Inc. and Edwin Luy of Triton Securities Corp.

The decision of the Coyiuto group to return to the PSE boardroom came in the midst of a corporate revamp that has hit the local bourse.

DISCLOSURES

THE **MANILA Electric Co.** has reported that its debts as of April 30 this year stood at P67.429 billion.

* * *

ELECTED as directors of **Concrete Aggregates Corp.** were Ignacio Ortigas, Francisco Ortigas III, Fernando Ortigas, Jose Rodriguez IV, Paul Joseph Lawrence, Jaime Ortigas, Alberto Montilla, Rafael Ortigas, Ma. Victoria Ortigas-Borromeo, Generosa Reyes and Eduardo Ortigas.

* * *

FILINVEST Development Corp. has clarified that the company, its directors and the Gotianun family has not engaged in insider trading.

* * *

LEISURE and Resorts World Corp. has disclosed that it is unaware of any information that may have affected the unusual movement of its shares on June 24.

* * *

INTERPORT Resources Corp. has rescheduled its annual stockholders meeting to Nov. 19, 2002.

* * *

LA TONDEÑA Distillers Inc. has bought 2,000 of its own shares at P33 each and 3,500 shares at P33.50 each.

* * *

RE-ELECTED as directors of **Primex Corp.** were Ernesto Ang, Eduardo Ang, Emilio Ang, Edgardo Ang, Ericson Ang, Jossie Chan and Ruben Gan.

* * *

ELECTED to the board of **Magnum Holdings Inc.** were Toribio Reyes III, Jose Abad Santos III, Felix Ang, Felix Chung, Bernadine Sly, Willy Tee Ten and Rosario Bernald.

* * *

ELECTED as directors of **Rizal Commercial Banking Corp.** were Rizalino Navarro, Cesar Virata, Valentin Araneta, Alfonso Yuchengco Jr., Susanne Santos, Ryo Narumai, Yasuhiro Matsumoto, Teodoro Ragala and Guia Margarita Santos-Qua, and Teodoro Peña and Bienvenido Tantoco Sr. as independent director.

* * *

EBECOM Holdings Inc. has postponed its annual stockholders meeting to Aug. 15. Record date is on July 15. ***Compiled by Ray Leyesa, PDI Research***

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PLDT, Qnet in Internet kiosk deal

THE PHILIPPINE Long Distance Telephone Co. has entered into a partnership with Qnet Communications Inc. for its "PLDT Q-Net Fonkard Net Station," a multi-media kiosk that provides the public with Internet services using PLDT's "Fonkard Plus."

These services include Web surfing, video chatting, photo and video mails, and text messages.

"The Q-Net powered station is a big benefit to PLDT customers, as it allows Fonkard Plus card users to take their telecommunication options to a greater level, using the same card they have been patronizing since Fonkard Plus was introduced in the early 1990s," PLDT national retail marketing sector head Joaquin San Agustin said in a statement yesterday.

Without having to buy a different or specialized phone card, PLDT Fonkard Plus users could already use their existing cards for Internet services offered in the Q-Net kiosks.

"For the same affordable and reliable convenience, customers simply have to visit any of the kiosk locations to enjoy the premium data services being offered by Q-Net," he added. ***Abigail L. Ho***

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of Tuesday, June 25, 2002)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Banco De Oro Univ. Bank	19	19	18.5	18.5	272,000
Bank of the Phil. Islands	50	50	50	50	69,800
Citystate Savings Bank	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	2,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	34.5	34.5	34.5	34.5	29,000
First E-Bank Corp.	1.66	1.66	1.64	1.66	30,000
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	36	36	34.5	35.5	131,300
Philippine National Bank	34.5	34.5	34	34	20,100
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	400
Security Bank Corp.	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	5,000
Union Bank of the Phil.	21.5	21.5	21.5	21.5	13,000
FINANCIAL SERVICE					
Bankard Inc.	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	60,000
Manulife Financial Corp.	1330	1345	1330	1340	1,610
PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc.	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	30,000
Sun Life Financial Serv.	1065	1080	1065	1080	1,920
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	24.5	24.5	24.25	24.5	14,300
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	0.74	0.74	0.72	0.72	3,110,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	600	600	590	595	8,390
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.034	0.034	0.031	0.031	1,600,000
ISM Communications Corp.	0.033	0.033	0.031	0.031	38,000,000
Piltel	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	220,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	387.5	387.5	385	387.5	29,240
Philweb.Com Inc.	0.013	0.014	0.013	0.013	39,800,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	21.5	21.5	21.25	21.5	20,300
Manila Electric Co. B	33	33	32.5	32.5	616,000
Petron Corp.	1.7	1.7	1.64	1.66	2,995,000
Salcon Power Corp.	1.62	1.66	1.62	1.66	280,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	200,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	155,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	2.44	2.44	2.4	2.4	685,000
Keppel Phils. Marine, Inc	0.38	0.38	0.36	0.36	330,000
William, Gothong & Aboitiz	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	35,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATEDPRODUC TS					
Alsons Cement Corp.	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	50,000
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	720,000
Phil Nat'l Const. Corp.	3.4	3.4	3.15	3.15	185,000
Republic Glass Hldg. Corp.	1.72	1.72	1.5	1.5	221,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	6,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	13.5	13.75	13.5	13.75	163,500
La Tondena Distillers Inc.	33.5	33.5	33	33.5	281,000
RFM Corp.	1.04	1.04	1.04	1.04	196,000
San Miguel Corp. A	47.5	48	47	48	120,600
San Miguel Corp. B	54.5	54.5	52.5	54	770,000
Vitarich Corp.	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	100,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.33	10,000
Ayala Corp.	5.1	5.1	5	5.1	6,343,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	2.34	2.34	2.32	2.32	141,000
Alliance Global Group Inc.	11.5	11.5	11.25	11.25	800
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075	5,000,000
ATN Holdings Inc.	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	30,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	0.44	0.45	0.44	0.45	1,950,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	1,070,000
Ebecom Holdings Inc.	5	5	5	5	1,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	22.25	22.25	22	22	48,100
Global Equities Inc.	0.105	0.105	0.105	0.105	90,000
House Of Investments Inc.	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.42	480,000
Ionics Inc.	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.3	6,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	1.64	1.64	1.62	1.62	375,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.74	0.74	0.72	0.73	2,580,000
Multitech Inv. Corp.	0.41	0.46	0.4	0.46	160,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	2,250,000
Music Corp.	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	330,000
Prime Orion Phils. Inc.	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.115	70,000
Roxas Holdings Inc.	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65	470,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.33	30,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	180,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Matsushita Elec Phil Corp.	5	5	5	5	5,000
Pryce Corp.	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	6,400,000
SPI Technologies Inc.	8	8	8	8	134,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICE					
Belle Corp.	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	690,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.46	0.46	0.46	0.46	440,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	30,000
Mondragon Intl Phils Inc.	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	80,000
Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc.	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	20,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp (Pdr)	24.75	24.75	24.5	24.5	3,700
Globe Telecom Hldg (Pdr)	710	730	710	730	1,800
Jollibee Warrants	13	13	13	13	290,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series P	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	300
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Q	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	500
PLDT (10% Pref) Series T	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	100
PLDT (10% Pref) Series X	10.5	10.5	10.25	10.25	1,700
PLDT 10% Pref Series Bb	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	2,000
Philweb.Com Inc. -Warrants	0.0032	0.0032	0.0032	0.0032	8,000,000
OTHERS					
Far Eastern University	450	450	450	450	500
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	5.6	5.7	5.5	5.5	2,455,000
Araneta Properties Inc.	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	100,000
Cityland Development Corp.	2.02	2.02	2.02	2.02	10,000
Cebu Holdings Inc.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	100,000
C & P Homes Inc.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	930,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.31	240,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	1,690,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	2.34	2.36	2.34	2.36	450,000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	300,000
MRC Allied Ind. Inc.	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09	3,200,000
Robinsons Land Corp.	1.78	1.78	1.78	1.78	13,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	687,000
MINING					
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.0028	0.0028	0.0028	0.0028	1,000,000
Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	2,000
Benguet Corp. A	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	20,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	100,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	300,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.0038	0.0038	0.0038	0.0038	14,000,000
Omico Corp.	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	48,000,000
Polar Mines & Dev't Corp.	0.015	0.015	0.015	0.015	5,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	220,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	0.29	0.29	0.28	0.28	410,000
OIL					
Imperial Res.	0.014	0.014	0.014	0.014	100,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.0032	0.0032	0.0032	0.0032	20,000,000
Sinophil Corp.	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	300,000
South China Resources Inc.	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	50,000

CURRENCIES

June 25, 2002

Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Foreign currency in US$	Foreign currency in Peso
United States	Dollar	1.029760	1.000000	50.2980
Japan	Yen	0.008467	0.008222	0.4136
United Kingdom	Pound	1.546597	1.501900	75.5426
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.132022	0.128207	6.4486
Switzerland	Franc	0.681599	0.661901	33.2923
Canada	Dollar	0.677251	0.657678	33.0799
Singapore	Dollar	0.583070	0.566219	28.4797
Australia	Dollar	0.589783	0.572738	28.8076
Bahrain	Dinar	2.731604	2.652661	133.4236
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.274588	0.266652	13.4121
Brunei	Dollar	0.579820	0.563063	28.3209
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000120	0.000117	0.0059
Thailand	Baht	0.024647	0.023935	1.2039
UAE	Dirham	0.280382	0.272279	13.6951
Korea	Won	0.000859	0.000834	0.0419
Euro	Euro	1.000000	0.971100	48.8444
Argentina	Peso	0.278313	0.270270	13.5940
Brazil	Real	0.365033	0.354484	17.8298
Denmark	Kroner	0.134609	0.130719	6.5749
India	Rupee	0.021098	0.020488	1.0305
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.271026	0.263193	13.2381
Mexico	New Peso	0.104650	0.101626	5.1116
New Zealand	Dollar	0.508398	0.493705	24.8324
Norway	Kroner	0.135638	0.131718	6.6252
Pakistan	Rupee	0.017179	0.016683	0.8391
South Africa	Rand	0.099657	0.096777	4.8677
Sweden	Kroner	0.110602	0.107406	5.4023
Syria	Pound	0.020034	0.019455	0.9785
Taiwan	NT Dollar	0.030676	0.029789	1.4983
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.000801	0.000778	0.0391

Gov't rejects . . .

From page B1

cerned about the fiscal slippage in the first four months when the budget deficit reached almost P83 billion or about 64 percent of the P130-billion ceiling for the whole year.

Aside from the huge inflow from the RTBs, the treasury's cash position was boosted recently by National Power Corp.'s payment of P7 billion of its P16 billion in borrowings last year. An added boost came from the $300-million government borrowing from the seven-year global bond market.

"To borrow more from foreign markets is an option we also want to keep," said Figueroa.

Banks still reluctant to lend

By Clarissa S. Batino

LOANS extended by commercial banks grew by 0.4 percent or P5.83 billion in April from the previous month's level.

The P1.418 trillion lent by banks in April, however, was still 2.2 percent short of the P1.45 trillion extended by banks in the same month last year.

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas said the banks' high level of soured loans were holding them back from lending more actively.

The BSP said the commercial banks' outstanding loans grew steadily in the first four months from P1.39 trillion in January to the April level of P1.418 trillion.

"The increase in bank lending has been, to a certain extent, limited by the need to preserve the asset quality of banks given their huge non-performing loans," said the central bank in a statement.

Bank lending remained low despite the prevailing low interest rates environment brought about by the cut in the BSP's overnight borrowing and lending rates last March to their 10-year lows of 7 percent and 9.25 percent.

Banks, said sources, continued to charge individuals and small businesses double-digit lending rates. Some banks justified their rates saying they had to include "anticipated risks" in their charges given their huge non-performing loans.

The bad loans of the commercial banking system stood at 18.23 percent of their total loans as of April.

The central bank noted that the local industries' huge spare capacity, particularly in the manufacturing sector, curbed demand for fresh bank financing. The average capacity utilization by the manufacturing sector stood at 75.6 percent as of March.

As of April, only the financial, real estate, and business services sector together with the group of community, social, and personal services registered an improvement in their bank loans. The first group's borrowings from the banks increased by 9.3 percent while the second posted a 10.9 percent improvement from year-ago levels.

On a month-on-month basis, however, the two sectors that accounted for 28.8 percent and 13 percent of total bank loans registered a reduction in their credits.

The manufacturing sector, which accounts for 26.3 percent of total loans, registered an 8.9-percent decline in April compared with the previous year's level.

Cocktales

From page B3

Cuisia team in saying that they think they can get me to their side," wrote director Reynaldo Concepcion, in reaction to a June 24 item in this column.

Concepcion, who controls the local Days Inn chain, said it was he and fellow director Cesar Bautista who prevailed on the MPC board to terminate the F&B operations and instead hire a concessionaire, which, after bidding, turned out to be Lynn Sunico's Makati Skyline.

Ironically, Yap, who is accused of being the Cardinal Richeliu of the board, was even against our outsourcing formula, said Concepcion.

"Clearly, I'm (being) given too much undeserved credit," Yap himself wrote.

Yap said he tried to broaden member participation in the board during his term last year by appointing Eduardo Hernandez, Romulo/Cuisia team's legal adviser, as head of the nominating committee.

"Unfortunately, despite Atty. Hernandez's best efforts, he failed because many deserving and capable members declined, believing that it is a thankless job subject to unfair criticism no matter what they do."

Bobby's revenge

AFTER encountering so many roadblocks over Itogon Suyoc-Philweb listing requirements from the previous PSE board, Philweb and Itogon Suyoc chair Roberto Ongpin must now be having the last laugh.

Ongpin's Philweb lawyer, Ana Maria Katigbak of Castillo Laman Tan & Pantaleon, is set to be appointed as head of the PSE listing department.

Katigbak will be replacing Tina Panganiban, who is being given the pink slip along with the other heads of the key PSE departments deemed identified with or friendly to the previous boards.

Among Katigbak's functions would be to set aside the findings/recommendations of the previous PSE listing department—following the SEC order clearing Itogon Suyoc, of course—that are now currently the subject of litigation between Ongpin and the former PSE chair Robert Coyiuto Jr.

Over Henareses' bodies

PRESIDENTIAL adviser Hilarion Henares Jr. is dead set in blocking the rumored appointment of radio station owner Joselito "Tito" Ojeda as deputy commissioner of the National Telecommunications Commission.

Henares has set a strongly worded memo to President Macapagal-Arroyo, detailing Ojeda's alleged sins.

Henares' own beef is that Ojeda allegedly had been beaming his Tagaytay transmitter not to his Laurel, Batangas FM radio station but to Metro Manila and Central Luzon instead. This alleged irregular beaming eats up and interferes on Henares son Atom's 107.5 MHz station in Metro Manila, since Ojeda was assigned the nearby 107.9 MHz frequency.

Why Ojeda was given less than 0.8 MHz frequency between another FM station's signal, a violation of current radio franchise regulations, is one of the many mysteries in the NTC.

Heard through the grapevine

AND speaking of the National Telecommunications Commission, career executive Fidelo Dumlao is said to be the frontrunner for the NTC top post to replace ex-military man Eliseo Rio who is retiring by month's end.

Dumlao left the service after being sidelined by the Estrada boys despite his CESO rank. *(Cocktales may be reached by e-mail at cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com or at cocktales_pdi@hotmail.com.)*

Plantersbank takes over Active Bank

THE BANGKO Sentral ng Pilipinas and the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp. (PDIC) have approved Planters Development Bank's acquisition of Active Bank.

Active Bank, a thrift bank, has total resources worth P1.2 billion and a network of 31 branches all over Metro Manila and Luzon. The takeover of Plantersbank takes effect on July 1, 2002.

Plantersbank chair and CEO Ambassador Jesus P. Tambunting said the acquisition would allow the bank to increase its branch network and depositor base.

The acquisition brings the number of Plantersbank's branches to 82, its consolidated assets to P23 billion and capital to P2.7 billion. This makes Plantersbank the 27th largest banking institution among 44 universal and commercial banks, 103 thrift banks, and 776 rural banks.

"With the ongoing moratorium on the issuance of branch licenses, we will definitely make full use of Active Bank's 31 branches to expand our reach in areas where there is a strong presence of SMEs," Tambunting said.

"This opportunity could come at no better time, as we undertake the expansion of capabilities of our branches to market not only loans and deposits, but also cash management services, Internet-based solutions for SMEs and other value added services," he adds.

With basically the same target market and its successful track record in SME financing, Plantersbank is in the best position to take over Active Bank. Plantersbank's focus on SME financing has established it as a model for other Asian financial institutions.

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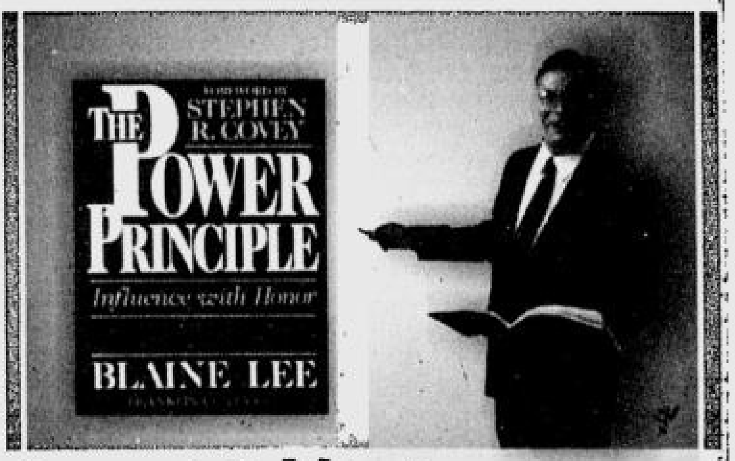

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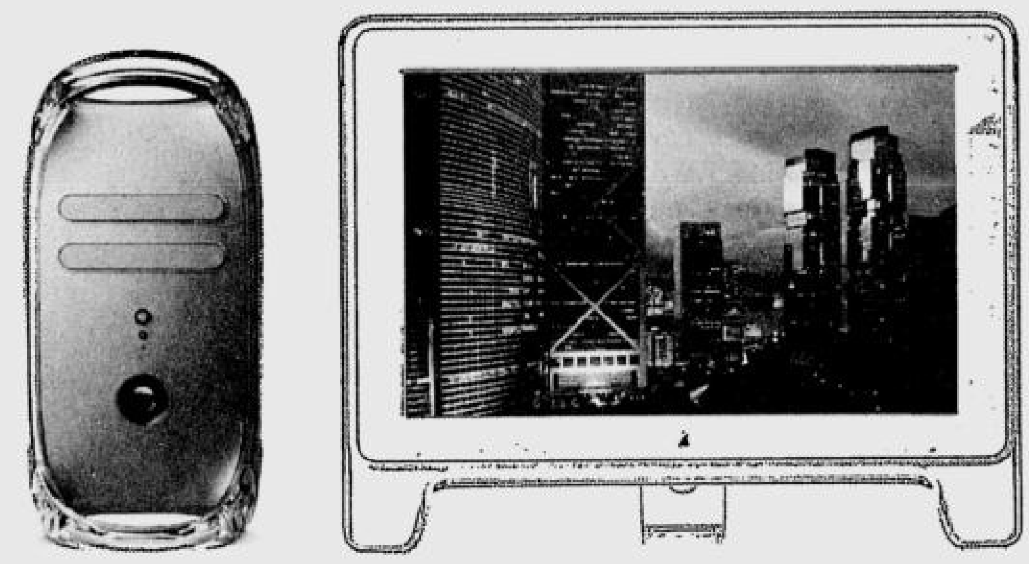

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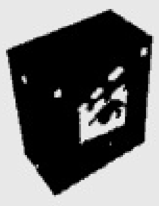

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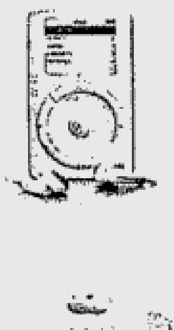

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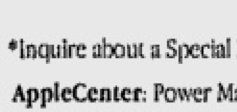

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Stable yen beneficial for economy—officials

TOKYO—Japanese officials, fearful a rapidly rising yen could choke off economic recovery, kept up the pressure on the foreign exchange market on Tuesday, saying a stable currency was not only good for Japan but for the world.

Finance Minister Masajuro Shiokawa, whose ministry controls foreign exchange policy, said Japan had intervened in the currency market on Monday to restore order to trading.

"It was necessary for the forex market to stabilize not only for Japan but for the global economy," he said.

He said the government wanted a degree of orderliness in the currency market, which, he said, had lost a sense of direction.

"If the government had not sent a signal, the market could have gone off in one direction and a lot of people would have been hurt," he told reporters.

Trade Minister Takeo Hiranuma was more specific, saying it would be problematic if the dollar fell sharply below 120 yen.

Asked about appropriate currency levels, he said: "I cannot say because firms have strength, (but) it would be difficult (for them) if the dollar fell sharply below 120 yen."

The dollar was trading around 121.90 yen at 0135 GMT, up from its 121.63 yen finish in New York.

Japanese authorities intervened in the currency market on Monday, selling dollars for yen for the first time in three weeks after the yen surged to a seven-month high of 120.80 to the dollar in offshore trade on Friday.

The dollar spiked up briefly to 122.80 yen but failed to maintain the upward momentum due to profit-taking selling.

Dealers estimate that Japan has spent about $25 billion over the past few weeks to stem a rise in the yen, which has climbed about 10 percent since April 1 as the US dollar slides against major currencies on pessimism over US financial assets.

A reporter suggested the intervention had not been very effective. Shiokawa replied: "Yes, but I think the market is taking a wait-and-see stance."

Hiranuma said the yen's strength had halted somewhat, but vigilance must be maintained. "There are various effects on industry so we need to watch carefully." *Reuters*

Suzuki agrees to invest in GM-Daewoo firm

TOKYO—Japanese automaker Suzuki Motor Corp. said Tuesday it had agreed to invest in a South Korean company to be set up by US giant General Motors Corp. to take over the operations of bankrupt Daewoo Motor Co.

Suzuki said in a statement it had "reached a basic agreement" to invest in the new automaker but added discussions were continuing.

Last week, Suzuki acknowledged it was considering investing in the company after reports said it would take a stake of about 15 percent in the GM-Daewoo company for 10 to 15 billion yen ($82 to $123 million).

A spokesperson said at the time the investment was part of Suzuki's plans to expand its Asian business.

US auto giant GM, which has a 20-percent stake in Suzuki, took control of Daewoo Motor Co. at the end of April.

The deal, struck after drawn out negotiations, marked GM's comeback to South Korea after it severed ties with Daewoo in 1992.

Under the deal, a new company was to be set up to take over Daewoo Motor's operations with GM taking a 42-percent stake, Daewoo creditors 33 percent and GM's business partners 25 percent. *AFP*

United seeks $1.8-B loan

CHICAGO—United Airlines is asking the government for $1.8 billion in loan assistance, making it the biggest carrier yet to seek help from a loan guarantee program created to prop up the ailing industry after Sept. 11.

The nation's No. 2 airline, which has lost more than $2 billion since the attacks, is the third major carrier to seek federal guarantees, following America West and US Airways.

Elk Grove Village, Illinois-based United said Monday that it asked the Air Transportation Stabilization Board to back 90 percent of a $2-billion private loan.

Chair and chief executive officer Jack Creighton called United "the perfect candidate" for the program, since it was a target of the attacks. Two of the four planes seized by terrorists were United's; one was flown into the World Trade Center and another crashed in rural Pennsylvania.

"We're now burdened by short-term financing needs that are driven by the aftermath of Sept. 11th and aggravated by the weak economic recovery," Creighton said. "While we continue to explore financing alternatives, we don't believe they will be sufficient because our access to the capital markets has been severely restricted."

Separately, United officials said they are close to a lucrative code sharing agreement with US Airways. The code sharing, in which airlines share one plane on a route using flight numbers for both carriers, would produce more than $200 million a year in revenues for United if approved by pilots.

The government made $10 billion in loan guarantees available to airlines that could meet stringent financial criteria as part of the airline bailout package approved by Congress last fall.

US Airways asked the government this month for $900 million in loan guarantees to avoid bankruptcy. America West Airlines of Phoenix received $429 million in guarantees in December.

Creighton had said United would apply if it got wage concessions from its workers, demonstrating to the government its commitment to return to financial stability. It has since ordered pay cuts for its 11,000 management and salaried employees, estimated at $430 million over three years, and reached a tentative pay-cut agreement with its 9,200 pilots worth another $520 million over three years. *AP*

AHEAD OF G8 MEET

Japan adopts new revival plan

TOKYO—The Japanese Cabinet Tuesday adopted an economic package aimed at reviving the economy through budget and tax reforms ahead of a meeting of Group of Eight (G8) leaders in Canada.

The package is the second introduced by Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi this year, aimed at halting a slide in prices and reviving growth.

As with the first package, the latest measures received a cool reception from financial markets, with analysts again criticizing a lack of concrete measures.

Nevertheless, Koizumi said it was essential the planned reforms be pushed through.

"It is necessary for us to implement the reforms by unifying the public and private sectors to tackle important issues," he said.

Koizumi, who is to leave for Canada Tuesday afternoon to attend this year's G8 summit, wants to reassure other world leaders he can implement reforms to revive the world's second largest economy after a decade-long slump.

A spokesman for Koizumi told reporters last week Japan wanted to "convey the message that his structural reforms are making steady progress."

The package was submitted to the Cabinet on Friday by the government's Council on Economic and Fiscal Policy, chaired by Koizumi, after receiving approval from the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

"The most important thing is to take action now," Heizo Takenaka, Japan's economic policy minister and a key member of the council, said Tuesday.

The package calls for an austere national budget for the next fiscal year starting in April in an effort to reduce the ballooning national debt, which has prompted major credit rating agencies to repeatedly downgrade Japan's sovereign rating.

It also urges the comprehensive reform of the nation's tax system, officials said.

The package calls for expanding the tax base while lowering tax rates, including a cut to the effective corporate tax rate of about 41 percent.

But market expectations of the second reform plan are fairly low, analysts said, adding they doubted Koizumi would be able to push the measures through due to his fading popularity.

"The package includes a lot of abstract words and lacks concrete steps to revive the economy," said Hiroshi Sato, a senior strategist at Mizuho Investors Securities. "Market players are almost ignoring the package."

They were disappointed at the removal of an undertaking to cut public works spending—a key reform promised by Koizumi—from the package, following opposition by the LDP. *AFP*

A DEMONSTRATOR hits the steel wall of Citibank with a hammer in protest of the devaluation of their savings accounts and Eduardo Duhalde in Buenos Aires. AFP

Thousands of protesters slam WB in Oslo

OSLO—About 10,000 protesters waving banners and shouting anti-World Bank slogans marched in Oslo on Monday as the bank defended its policies on fighting global poverty at a conference in the city.

"Close down the World Bank," "Write off foreign debt," "Make love not money," read signs held by demonstrators parading through the streets in a carnival atmosphere under warm sun on the first day of the three-day bank gathering.

Marchers denounced everything from capitalism and the United States to Israeli attacks on Palestinians in a grab bag of protests prompted by the World Bank meeting of 300 academics. Many booed as they passed the Oslo stock exchange.

World Bank chief economist Nicholas Stern rejected the criticisms of the bank at the start of the Annual Bank Conference on Development Economics (ABCDE), saying it had changed course in recent years to focus on reducing poverty.

Some protesters bore a 20-meter green paper snake gorging on dollar bills to represent the World Bank. Others carried masks showing the horrified face in "The Scream" by Norwegian artist Edvard Munch, above the words "exploitation" and "oppression."

Many shops and restaurants closed early, public transport services were cut in the city center and police barred cars from stopping inside an unprecedented security cordon. But police reported no arrests or violence.

Only a handful of police were visible, but more than 1,000 were on call in case of violence, fearing a repetition of the rioting at a European Union summit in Gothenburg, Sweden, last year or of street battles in cities from Seattle to Prague.

Stern said the bank had shifted in recent years to cutting debt burdens, combating corruption and boosting education and health in developing nations, moving away from simply imposing tough capitalist economic cures as conditions for its loans.

"The focus is more on poverty reduction," he told a news conference in a tightly guarded hotel on the fringes of the city. "Our successes are more than our failures."

He said the bank was trying to meet a UN goal of halving the number of people living on less than one dollar a day by 2015, and made loans that totaled $17 billion last year.

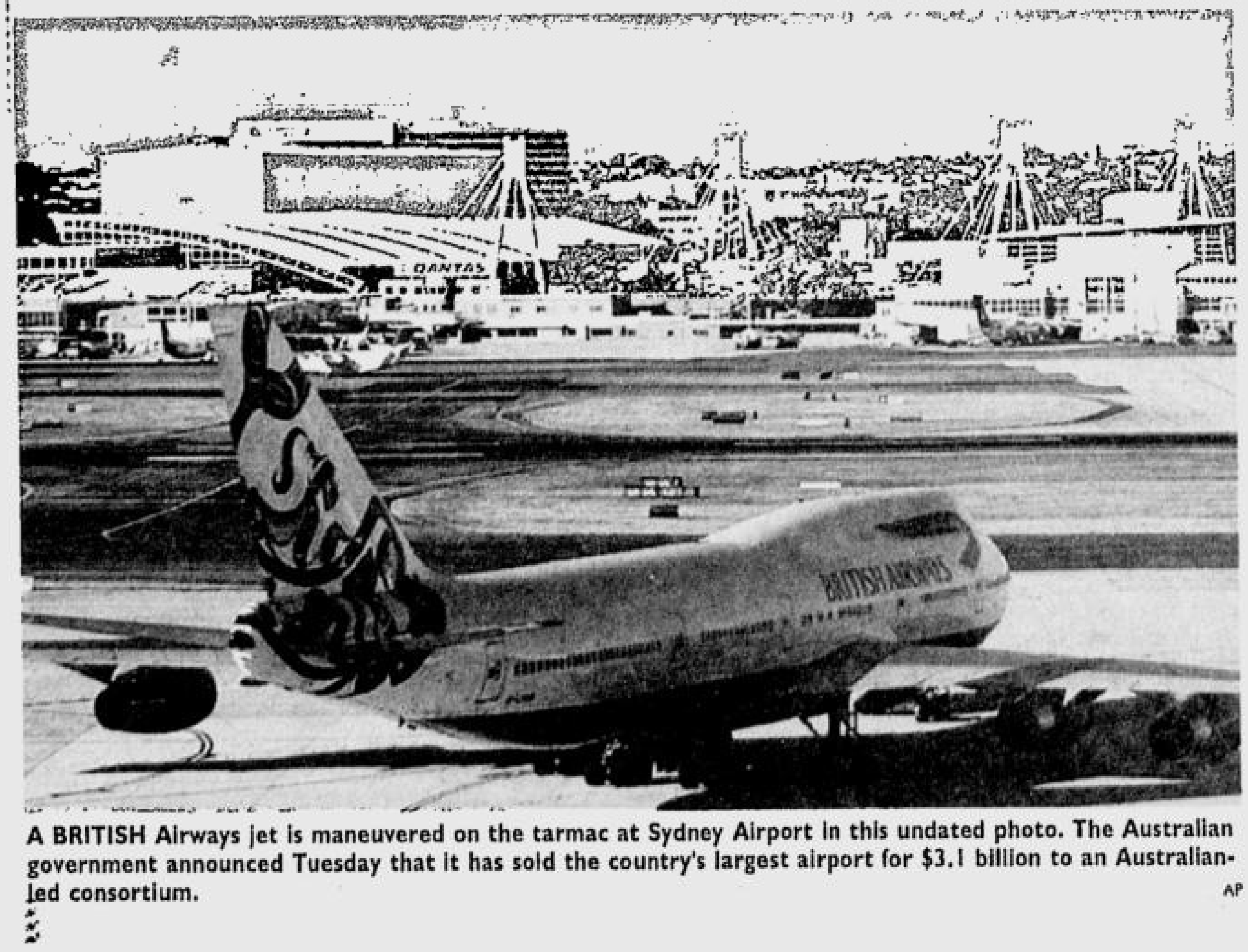
Among signs of success in development policies, he said that average life expectancy for people in the third world had risen to the mid-'60s from the mid-'40s in recent decades, and the bank had helped write off debts of $40 billion.

But demonstrators said the changes were cosmetic.

"World Bank policies mean the rich countries are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer," Toril Lilleheie, head of the Norwegian civil service union, said in a speech to the marchers.

Monday's demonstration was the biggest in Oslo since about 40,000 people marched in protest against neo-Nazis early last year after a black teenager was knifed to death in a racist attack.

The World Bank moved its 2001 ABCDE conference to the Internet after fears of violence in the planned host city Barcelona, Spain. Two earlier conferences were held in Paris without protests. *Reuters*



A BRITISH Airways jet is maneuvered on the tarmac at Sydney Airport in this undated photo. The Australian government announced Tuesday that it has sold the country's largest airport for $3.1 billion to an Australian-led consortium. AP

Government sells Sydney airport lease for $3.1B

SYDNEY, Australia—The government sold a 99-year lease to Sydney airport, Australia's biggest, to an Australian-led consortium for A$5.5 billion ($3.1 billion).

Southern Cross consortium, which beat out two other bidders for the airport, is led by Australia's Macquarie Bank and includes German construction company Hochtief AG and the Commonwealth Bank of Australia.

Finance Minister Nick Minchin announced the sale Tuesday at the airport's international terminal.

"This is the biggest government trade sale in Australian history," he said. "We believe the price does reflect full and fair value of Sydney airport given that it is a world class international airport facility."

Minchin said the government would use A$4.2 billion ($2.4 billion) to pay off debt.

The deal gives Southern Cross full ownership of Sydney Airport Corporations Ltd., the airport's managing company, and the first right to build a second Sydney airport.

The government will take back control of the airport after the 99-year lease expires.

The government has already sold the country's other major airports, but Sydney is the nation's largest and is used by millions of domestic and international passengers each year.

Final bids for the airport were submitted June 12 after the government delayed the sale in September after the terrorist attacks in the United States and the collapse of Ansett, Australia's second largest domestic airline.

Nicholas Moore, head of Macquarie's Investment Banking Group, said passengers would see little change to the airport, at least in the short term.

He said the consortium was considering some modification of the airport's retail area and it would widen runways to accommodate more modern, wider-wing aircraft.

The other two groups vying for the airport were Sydney Gateway Group, led by Australia's Westpac Banking Group, and the Connect Group which includes Dutch bank ABN Amro Holdings NV and French transport infrastructure and engineering company Egis Group. *AP*

Forecasters see resurgence in business investments

WASHINGTON—A deep slump in business spending on new plants and equipment was a key culprit in the 2001 recession but economists believe the hard-hit US capital equipment sector is at last on track for a modest rebound.

Economic forecasters are guardedly optimistic about corporate spending even amid a sell-off in stock prices that will keep pressure on companies to restrain costs and may add to persistent gloom on the executive floor.

Capital spending is front and center on the radar screens of private economists and Federal Reserve officials, who believe that a resurgence in business investment is a vital part of a strong, sustainable economic expansion.

A pickup in demand for computers, machinery and other equipment would help the recovery in the broader economy, prompting factories that make big-ticket items to crank into gear and possibly start hiring new workers.

"I don't think we are going to see a return to the heady days of the late 1990s," said Paul Kasriel, chief economist at Northern Trust Co. in Chicago. "I don't think we are on the eve of a major boom but I do think we are on the eve of a rebound."

Flush with cash from the stock market boom in the late 1990s, companies gorged on new computers, telecommunications equipment and other investments.

Helping to spur this spending binge was an overhaul of computer systems to rid them of the Y2K computer bug. Business fixed investment—which includes both plants and equipment spending—skyrocketed at annual rates of better than 10 percent between 1995-2000, according to the Commerce Department.

But spending dried up abruptly in late 2000. For the five quarters between the start of 2001 and the first quarter of this year, firms sharply slashed capital investment. In the first quarter 2002, business investment sank 8.2 percent after plummeting 13.8 percent in the fourth quarter of 2001.

Reuters

US economic outlook favorable–IMF report

WASHINGTON—The US economy's outlook is favorable and interest rates need not be raised until the recovery gathers steam, according to a new International Monetary Fund report notable for its criticism of the Bush administration's economic performance.

In the lender's annual assessment of the world's richest economy, placed on the US Treasury's website without fanfare late on Friday, the IMF said: "The Fed has some room to wait until the recovery is more clearly established before acting, given the minimal signs of impending inflation pressures and the still uncertain economic outlook."

The powerful US central bank last cut its key short-term interest rate target in December to 1.75 percent, a four-decade low. The Fed meets this week to set interest-rate policy and is expected to leave borrowing costs unchanged.

But the IMF cautioned the Federal Reserve to remain wary of "the possibility that delaying action would require larger and more disruptive policy adjustments later on."

The IMF said it expects growth to moderate from the rapid 5.6 percent annual pace of expansion seen in the first quarter, but nevertheless sees the recovery being sustained by an uptick in business investment and strong consumer spending.

But it said "important uncertainties remain," notably the prospects for corporate profits and investment, household demand strength and the large US trade deficit.

The report was critical of the Bush administration's handling of fiscal policy—something it was happier with during the Clinton years when the budget was balanced.

"The fiscal outlook has deteriorated markedly over the past year," it said, while also panning recent US trade policy.

The international lender, best known for its dealings with economically troubled nations like Argentina and Turkey, also offers annual economic advice to its richer member nations.

While many of those appraisals are notable for their lack of criticism of governments' policy actions, the latest US report card took issue with the Bush administration's actions.

Reuters

Korea post-Asian crisis reforms cost $129B

SEOUL—South Korea has spent 156 trillion won ($129 billion) in public money to fund economic reforms since the 1997-1998 Asian financial crisis, adding 44.7 billion won in May, the Finance and Economy Ministry said on Tuesday.

Expenditure in May included 27.8 billion won in payments of deposits for customers at mutual savings firms and 3.8 billion won in equity investment in small financial services firms, the ministry said in a statement.

Of the total spent so far, 46.9 trillion won, or 30 percent of the total, has been retrieved through sales of assets and non-performing loans collected from financial institutions.

Over the past five years, state-run Korea Deposit Insurance Corp. (KDIC) has spearheaded reform of the financial and corporate sectors, taking over ailing banks and helping bail out cash-strapped companies hit hard by the financial crisis.

South Korea has been one of the best pupils in the school of reform introduced by the International Monetary Fund, which helped keep several Asian nations from crumbling during the crisis.

South Korea's economy grew 3 percent last year, avoiding the recession which hit most of Asia, and is expected to rise 6 to 7 percent this year.

Reuters

HP to replace printer line with new models

HEWLETT-PACKARD, the world's biggest printer maker, is expected to announce today that it is killing off its entire multibillion-dollar line of consumer printers in favor of a completely revamped set of machines, The Wall Street Journal reported Tuesday.

Out: the old boxy stand-bys that do little more than take paper in and push it out. In: slimmer metallic-blue and silver numbers that can automatically tweak photo images and detect when you are using the right paper.

Many of the new models—which range in price from $79 to $399—also have faster printing speeds: about 17 pages a minute, up from 14.

The Palo Alto, California company, which is in the midst of digesting a $19-billion purchase of Compaq Computer, needs a shakeup of this magnitude. HP is losing money on almost all of its businesses, including personal computers and servers.

The only moneymaker is its printing and imaging group, which racks up more than $20 billion in annual revenues. However, profit margins on printers have been declining for years, as a glut of models has turned printers into a relatively low-cost commodity.

HP is now betting that consumers will spend more on feature-rich printers, providing a boost to the company at a critical time.

Of course, the risk is that all these new hues and features just aren't that compelling to the average consumer. Angele Boyd, an analyst at International Data Corp., says that what really matters to people in a printer are three basic attributes: speeds, price and whether pages get stuck in the gears.

Boyd gives points to the new design and extra buttons and software, but says these assets by themselves won't necessarily turn shoppers into buyers.

AP

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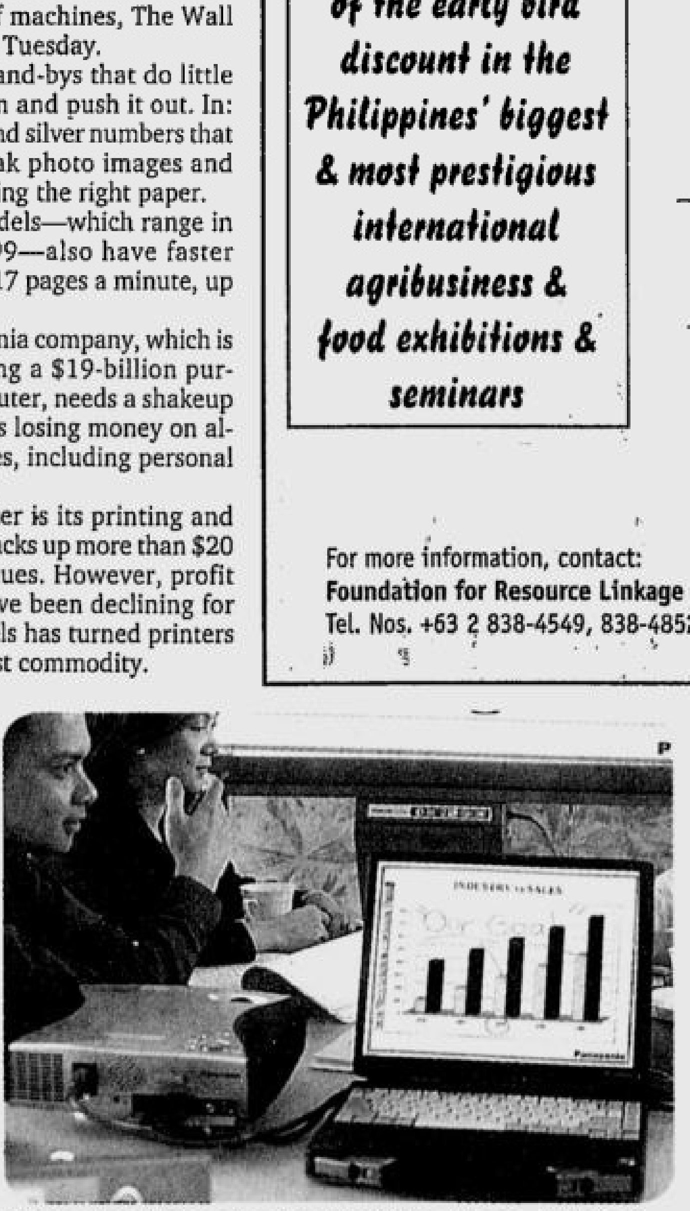

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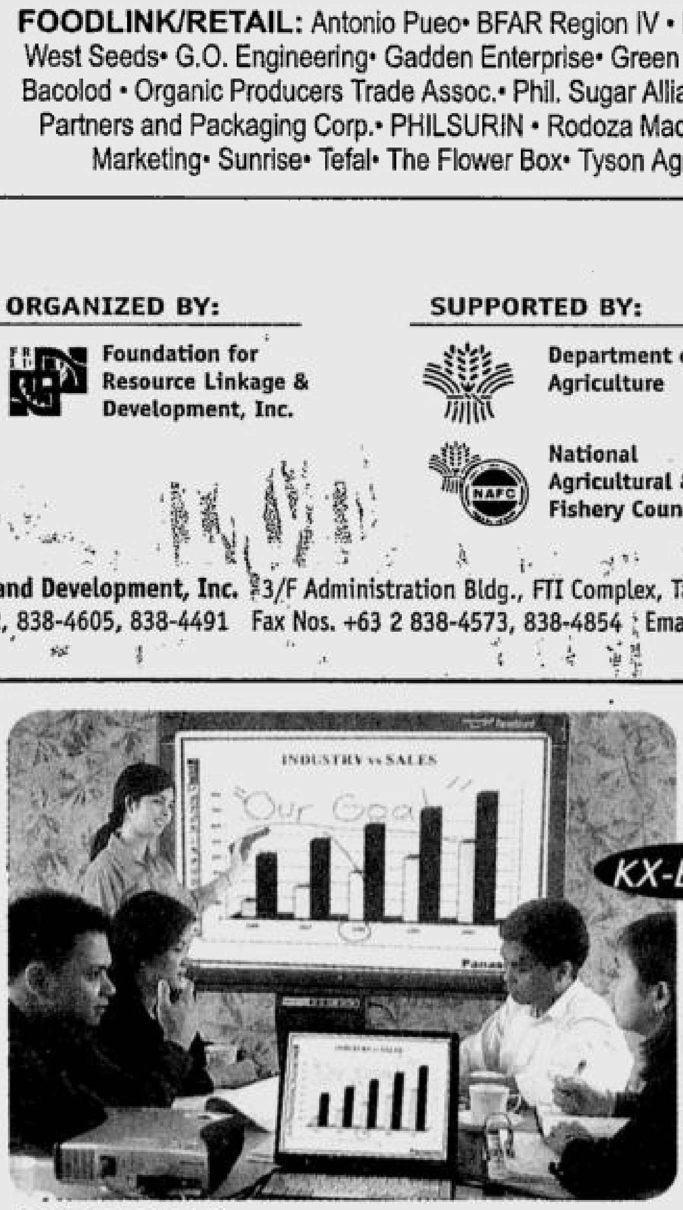

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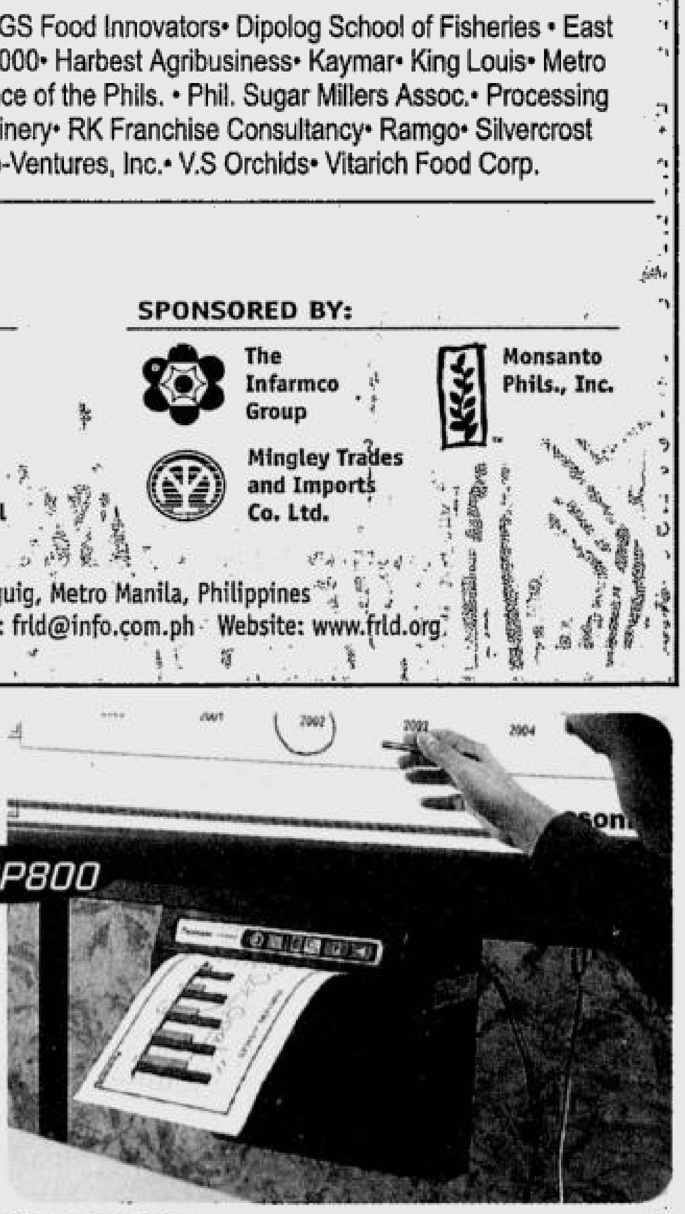

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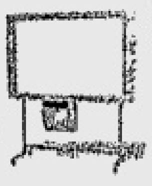

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BPI and Mitsui Sumitomo launch BPI/MS Insurance

THE BANK of the Philippine Islands and Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance Company of Japan formally launched BPI/MS Insurance Corp. June 21 at Manila Diamond Hotel in Manila.

The formal inauguration was hosted by Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala, president and co-vice chair of the board of Ayala Corp., Takeo Inokuchi, chair of Mitsui Sumitomo of Japan, Xavier Loinaz, president of BPI and chair of BPI/MS, Ryuichi Ito, president of BPI/MS, and Alfonso L. Salcedo Jr., BPI/MS board director.

BPI and Mitsui Sumitomo entered a joint venture last year to form BPI/MS, which combines the operations of FGU Insurance Corp. and FEB Mitsui Marine Insurance Company.

FGU is one of the oldest insurance companies in the country, since its forerunner, Filipinas Compania de Seguros, was established in 1913. Among its past presidents was Don Alfonzo Zobel, one of the Ayala family's ancestors. FGU has long been known as the non-life insurance arm of the Ayala Group. In 1999, BPI became its direct owner with the former's merger with Ayala Insurance Holdings.

FEB Mitsui's forerunner, Makati Insurance, was owned by Far East Bank and Trust Company (FEBTC). In 1998, the bank entered into an alliance with Mitsui Marine, which bought 50 percent of the company. With BPI's merger with FEBTC, the former came to partly own FEB Mitsui.

Mitsui Marine Insurance Co. of Japan entered a merger of its own in 2001 with Sumitomo Marine Insurance Co., and the merged company was renamed Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance Co.

Mitsui Sumitomo is one of the largest insurance companies in Japan. It has 64 branches located in 40 countries around the world, giving it global reach and expertise. It has built a formidable sales infrastructure with 813 branches and over 90,000 agents in Japan alone, and counts numerous Japanese multinational companies among its loyal clientele.

Mitsui Sumitomo has a stockholders' equity of $10 billion. For the fiscal year ended March 2002, the company's non-consolidated gross premiums written reached $12.7 billion, making it one of the largest insurance companies in Japan.

BPI, on the other hand, has 150 years of banking leadership and is one of the most financially sound and technologically adept banking institutions. It has a network of some 700 branches all over the country.

BPI/MS, capitalized at P300 million, has more than 1,000 agents and brokers, the largest agency force in the industry. It will combine the financial muscle of the Bank of the Philippine Islands and the global insurance expertise of Mitsui Sumitomo.

BPI/MS' predecessors, FGU and FEB Mitsui, had a consolidated gross premiums written of P1.793 billion in 2001. Net underwriting income before administrative expenses reached P365.8 million, and net income was at P142.9 million.

BPI/MS headquarters are located at the 11th and 16th floors of the Ayala Life-FGU Center at 6811 Ayala Avenue, Salcedo Village, Makati and can called at 840-9000.

PANA NEW MEMBER

The Star Group of Malls, represented by marketing supervisor Philip Jason Arce (third from left) for Metropolis Star in Alabang, pose with the new members of the Philippine Association of National Advertisers (Pana). They were inducted recently at Punta Baluarte Resort, Calatagan, Batangas during the 5th General Membership Meeting and Golf Tournament. Other members of the Star group of malls are Starmall in Edsa corner Shaw Boulevard, and Mstar in Las Pinas.

TAIWANESE FIRM INVESTS

A Taiwanese environmental engineering firm has signed up as a technical investor with PSI Holdings for a solid waste management facility in the south. Shown, from left, are Nasser Syed Alli, Zhao Lujung, Eros Kaw, Nenee Santos, Mike Pelayo, Jelyne Lorete, Ken Lee, Magic Liu and Vincent Chiang.

INFOMAND LAUNCHES NEWSCLUB

Infomand Philippines Inc., a satellite communications company, recently launched Kabayan Radio & Newsclub, an OFW-membership club with bases in Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macau and Guangdong, China. Shown are the men and women of the Club. Kabayan Radio & Newsclub aims to bring news, information, entertainment, services, and privileges to OFWs around the world, and keep them in constant touch with their families in the Philippines. Kabayan Radio broadcasts live via satellite from Makati City. For more information, call Infomand Philippines at 896-3351, or 896-3362, look for Anna or Jiji, or visit Unit 3A and 3C, St. John's Building, 7691 St. Paul Street, San Antonio Village, Makati City.

13th
National
Consumer
Awards

OUTSTANDING MEAT PROCESSOR

CDO-Foodsphere Inc. was adjudged Outstanding Meat Processor at the 13th Annual Consumers Awards of the Consumers Union of the Philippines at awarding rites held recently at the Manila Hotel. The latest accolade makes the food company the first and only meat processor in the country that has won the prestigious award for four consecutive years beginning in 1999. At the awarding rites were, from left, CUP president Quirino Marquinez, Lily Nicolas, Ofelia Trinidad, CDO-Foodsphere's corplan manager Maritess Escarcha and corporate services group senior manager Lawrence Simpao, Bishop Sonia Lim, and National Security Adviser Rollo Golez.

CHICAGO COMMUNITY SHARES IN RIVER REHAB

Philippine Consul General Emelinda Lee-Pineda presented a $500 check donation for the Pasig River rehabilitation program, through Unilever Philippines chair and CEO Howard Belton. The turnover took place during the Chicago launching of the book 'Pasig: A River of Life' recently at the Chicago Consulate's Kalayaan Hall. The book, which aims to inspire in reliving the grandeur of Pasig, was published by Unilever Philippines. Present to witness the Chicago Filipino-American community's support are Pasig book co-author Reynaldo G. Alejandro (left) and Consul J. Eduardo Malaya (right). Unilever, celebrating its 75th year in the Philippines, is a leading manufacturer of home and personal care products such as Surf, Rexona, Sunsilk, Close-Up, and Vaseline. The company is also an active member of the government's Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission.

Seminars, demos in food and bev show

THE PHILIPPINE Society of Mechanical Engineers – Manila Host Chaper (PSME-MHC), in strategic partnership with Fairs & More Inc., an affiliate of the European Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines (ECCP), with the full backing of industry giants Petron Gasul and San Miguel Beer, in cooperation with Unilever, the Department of Agriculture, Coca-Cola Bottlers Phils., La Tondeña Distillers Inc., and the Philippine Beverages Partners Inc., present the 4th International Food and Beverage Exposition (Foodtech/Bevtech) 2002 at the World Trade Center Metro Manila (WTCMM) on June 26 to 29.

To highlight the exposition are seminars on the latest industry practices both here and abroad as part of the campaign to educate and update local standards to match with global principles. The seminar line-up includes free technical sessions to be presented by local and international industry experts that include Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) and Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) as well as business trends seminars like Packaging and Labeling techniques, Foreign Food and Bev Market Opportunities, Bistro Cooking and Bartending Basics, to name a few.

Simultaneous with the said seminars will be cooking demonstrations as presented by featured chefs from the most prestigious establishments in the Metro, as sponsored by Art Mobel Modular Systems, kitchen set-up suppliers, Tefal, kitchen utensils providers, and Sysu International Inc., Tentay and San Miguel Foods as cooking ingredients suppliers.

For the complete list of the Seminar and Technical Sessions, visit www.foodandbeverageexpo.com. For inquiries and reservations, the Exposition Secretariat may be reached at 687-2955, 687-0654, 845-1324, 759-6680, or e-mail mayose.cut@pacific.net.ph or egarcia@fairsandmore.com.

Product FILES

American Home at US Embassy exhibit

CMTC International Marketing Corp., makers and distributor of quality, world-class US brands such as American Home, Maytag and Magic Chef, recently participated in the US Embassy-sponsored exhibit titled "The Great American Home" at the Glorietta Activity Center, Ayala Center in Makati City. The exhibit aimed to promote and feature only the best in US made brands and products.

Among the products displayed were American Home commercial washer and dryers, Perfect 10 microwave oven, airpot, turbo broiler and rice cooker and steamer, Maytag side-by-side refrigerator and Magic Chef (Profiline) gas range and hood.

GMA INDUCTS ANVIL CLUB OFFICERS

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo recently inducted the newly elected officers and directors of the Anvil Executive Club in Malacanang. Shown are, from left, Michael Chenglay, Steven Cua, Benjamin Dyjuanco, Michael Lui, Richard Barria (vice president), Bernard Go (chair), Mark Cabilangan (president), Ronald Ko (executive vice president), Solon Sy (vice president), Jeffrey Cobankiat, Regan Sy, and Jeffrey Ng. Anvil is a business club of young Filipino-Chinese entrepreneurs and professionals.

PETROLEUM ASSOCIATION INDUCTION

Department of Energy Secretary Vincent S. Perez Jr. recently inducted the officers and directors of the Petroleum Association of the Philippines. Shown, from right, are Sec. Perez, Alfredo C. Ramos, chair, Oscar C. de Venecia, president, David J. Greer, vice chair, Antonio V. del Rosario, immediate past president, Eduardo F. Hernandez, James J. LeJeune, 2nd vice president, Rufino B. Bomasang, 1st vice president, Louis P. Heussaff, 3rd vice president, Augusto B. Sunico, Christopher M. Gotanco, treasurer, Carlitos G. Cruz.

BITS Clips

Soroptimists in QC inducted

SOROPTIMIST International of Quezon City will have its Installation Ceremonies for officers and directors (2002-2004) and Induction of new members today, June 26, 5:30 p.m. at the Manansala Hall of the Manila Galleria Suites. QC mayor Sonny Belmonte will be the keynote speaker. To be installed as officers are Amar Torres, president, Bechay Ledesma, president-elect, Zeny Maranan, 1st vice president, Rorie Arnaez, 2nd vice president, Emily Duterte, recording secretary, Rosie Suntay, corresponding secretary, Ginny Jugo, treasurer, Cathy Villacastin, assistant treasurer, Toots Viray, PRO, Thelma Ortiz, club delegate, and Nani Encarnacion, club parliamentarian. Dolly Flores, governor of Soroptimist International of the Philippine region, will be the inducting officer. SI is a global organization for women in management and the professions.

Wedding bazaar in Makati

A WEDDING Showcase Bazaar will be held from June 26 to 28 at the Enterprise Center, Makati City. The bazaar will feature the country's top caterers, wedding coordinators, fashion designers and photographers. For inquiries, call Mafe Estudillo at 922-2272.

IIEE's mid-year confab

THE INSTITUTE of Integrated Electrical Engineers of the Philippines Inc. (IIEE), the national association of registered electrical engineers and master electricians in the country, will hold its 2002 Mid-Year General Membership Meeting and Technical Forum from June 27 to 29 at the Manila Midtown Hotel. Anchored on the theme "Transforming IIEE to Meet the Challenges of Globalization and IT," this event will feature a pre-convention sports festival, IT-enhanced technical sessions and product presentations, electrical industry exhibition, plenary forum discussion, and a fellowship night. For more information, call 414-5626, 727-3552, 727-3558 and 722-7383.

Managing restos, canteens

RESTAURATEURS, hoteliers, resort and canteen operators and those planning to open their own foodservice business can now have a chance to hone their skills when ProActive Center for Training holds its Managing a Restaurant/Canteer Seminar-Workshop from June 27 to July 8, 1 to 5 p.m., at Bedas Restaurant, C-5, Libis, Quezon City. The training covers topics such as planning the concept, menu, location, layout and equipment, hygiene and sanitation, human resource development, and cost control. Reservations are being accepted on a first-come-first serve basis at 787-6370 or 0919-5500601.

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Regional Manager
2/F, La Fontana Di Remedios
Arcade, Bolton St., Davao City
Tel. No: (082) 305-2813

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM
Office of the Provincial Agrarian Reform Officer
DAR Provincial Office
San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur

NOTICE OF COVERAGE

TO ALL CONCERNED LANDOWNERS AND/OR THEIR AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES:

Pursuant to Section 7 of R.A. 6657 and in compliance with the Supreme Court ruling in the case of Roxas & Co. Inc. versus The Court of Appeals, GR. No. 127876, dated Dec. 17, 1999, together with DAR Administrative Order No. 2, s. 1996 as amended by Administrative Order No. 01, s. 1998, all concerned landowners and/or their authorized representative are hereby notified that the properties as hereunder listed, are now covered by the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program, to wit:

Name of landowner	Title/ARP No.	Location	Area (hectares)
Felix De Villa	TCT No 10347 (3347)	Antipolo, Iriga City	572 4415
Nicomedes Abrasaldo c/o Felipe Abrasaldo	RO-1595 (673)	Denrica, Garchitorena, Camarines Sur	23.4945
Cama Plantation/ Amadeo Malule/Mariano T. Nasser	OCT No. 3876	Bahao, Salvacion, Villadima and Cama, all of Libmanan, Camarines Sur	613.7585
Development of the Philippines through its President and/or Alfredo Casio	TCT No RT 1440 (18900)	Caima and Villasocorro, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	23.5680
Development of the Philippine through its President	TCT No. RT1561 (131159)	Caima and Villasocorro, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	23.4523
Allied Banking Corporation through its President and/Rene dela Rosa	TCT No. RT 694 (21411)	Caima and Villasocorro all of Libmanan, Camarines Sur	23.0377
	TCT No. RT 893 (21410)		22 8899
	TCT No RT 895		20 7700
Development of the Philippines through its President and/or Florencio Oloque/Engracia Lanar	OCT No. RP 2284 (15812)	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	14 4758
Antonio F. Zabala/ Beata Zabala/Eden Ibe/ Ma. Teresa Zabala	OCT No. RP 9456 (24210)	Caima and Cambalidio all of Libmanan, Camarines Sur	23 1641
	OCT No RP 9457 (26644)		21 5262
Loma T. Cales	OCT No. RP 418 (28345)	Caima and Cambalidio, all of Libmanan, Camarines Sur	20 6484
Rural Bank of Ragay through its Manager and/or	TCT No. T-2407	Cama, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	7 0001
Buenaventura Bautista/ Estela Sebalbero	TCT No. T 2405		5.0002
Elias Monge/ Beata Repecio	TCT No. T 1976	Caima, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	11 0009
	TCT No. T 1982		13 6106
Paquita Monge/Olimpio Castelo	TCT No 1981	Cama, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	17 0009
Magdalena L. Monge/ Pamela M San Pablo/Ulpiano M Monge	TCT 1991/TCT-13775/TCT-13776	Cama, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	17 2002
Rosendo Agapito/RB Cabusao	OCT-RP-3725(23772)	Cawayan, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	5.3179
Tomas G. Macaraig/Pelagia Gomez	OCT-RP-9498 (18158)	Cama, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	11 8635
Adela Arevalo/Tirsodio Comia	OCT-RP-4951 (20800)	Cama, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	15 2870
Teofilo Almonte/Fausta San Jose/PNB	OCT-RP-3068 (26267)	Cama, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	17.2506
Aguinaldo C. Dion/Feliciana Aclan	OCT-RP-3669 (13096)	Cama, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	7.5692
Ireneo Repecio/Alejandria Parol	OCT-RP-2836 (12586)	Cama, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	10 5877
Esteban Rueda/Rogena Ronquillo/RB Ragay	TCT-1607	Cama, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	10.1001
Edmundo Calange/RB Sipocot Inc	OCT-RP-8309 (14974)	Caima, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	12.5513
Paciano Balencio/Ambrosia Ama	OCT-RP-5402 (13114)	Cama, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	14.7101
Jose Mendez/Marciano Lino/PNB	OCT-18171	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	4 6237
Perfecto Cortez/Socorro Boncolen/RB Sipocot	OCT-RP-6927 (15497)	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	11.7130
Rodolfo Gisala/Lorala Gisala/Celerino Advento	TCT-8540	Tinalmud Viejo, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	3.7239
Celerino T Advento/Jacobina Gisala/RB Bombon	TCT-5096	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	12.2858
Celerino T Advento/Jacobina Gisala/RB Bombon	TCT-5095	Bahao, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	8.7765
Casiano Lopos/Constancia Belo/RI-AD Ventures Corp./Celerino T. Advento-President	TCT-RP-8858 (14616)	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	9.8884
Adolfo Olivan/RB Bombon/Celerino Advento	TCT-5460	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	14.3488
Adolfo Olivan/RB Bombon/Celerino Advento	TCT-5771	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	23.3334
Rosita Marquez/Vicente Cayas/Marcar Odamar	TCT-8237	Tinalmud Viejo, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	15.6185
Monico Imperial/Adelaida Kalugbac/Bicol Savings and Loan Association	TCT-372	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	21.9633
Monico Imperial/Adelaida Kalugbac/Bicol Savings and Loan Association	TCT-371	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	23.6017
Monico Imperial/Adelaida Kalugbac/Bicol Savings and Loan Association	TCT-370	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	21.8851
Pedro M. Templo/Carolina Oliva	TCT-293	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	23.2855
	TCT-RT-10483 (10650)	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	23 3518
	TCT-294	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	22 4213
	TCT-13203	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	22 4684
Pedro M Templo/Carolina	TCT-RT-8904 (295)	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	22 8400
Oliva/RB Talisay and Labo (CN), Inc. Pedro M Templo/Carolina	TCT-RT-8903 (296)	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	21.4863
Oliva/RB Talisay and Labo (CN), Inc. UCPB/Carolina Oliva Templo	TCT-9841	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	23 6058
	TCT-9840	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	23 6626
	TCT-9844	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	23 3671
	TCT-9842	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	21 4385
	TCT-9843	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	23 1609
Mario Repecio/Rosita Lopez	OCT-RP-2493(14531)	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	10 8677
Ines Nazol	OCT-RP-4311(20178)	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	15 8409
Agapito de la Rosa/Maurelio Abad/DBP	OCT-RP-8399(21127)	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	7.5172
Marcelino N. Eugenio & Elena Villa	TCT-2059/TCT-RT-114(3064)	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	38.2285
Macario Selga/Narciso F Cena	TCT-2329/TCT-11752	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	18.1732
Catalino Pondale/Pura Barza	OCT-RP-6695(14254)	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	8 1212
Elias Palmo/Eulalia Abadr Hilario Mulleda/RB of San Fernando (CS), Inc.	OCT-RP-5354(13987)	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	11 7366
Emmanuel V Dilanco	OCT-16270	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	15.6786
PNB/Sinforoso Soneja	TCT-RT-10497(763)	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	9.5810
Teodoro P Dilanco/Estelita Sierra/Transita Sandagon	OCT-16849	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	4.1635
	OCT-336961	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	2 0923
Faustino Lumanlog/Rebecca Zaldua/Eduardo Lumanlog	TCT-RT-1395(10802)	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	8.9689
Marcial Baba/Francisca Flordelis/RB Balatan	OCT-RP-6045(12532)	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	7.3620
Teodorico Layva/ Patricia Rodriguez	OCT-RP-898(17455)	Cambalidio, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	12.1693
Fabian Flordelis/ Ana Avendaño	OCT-RP-492(13012)	Bahao, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	7.3468
Eliosino Manalo/ Maria Manalo RB Ragay, Inc.	OCT-373	Bahao, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	5.1345
J. Jaucian & Sons, Inc./ Alfred Jaucian	TCT-RT-1113(12186)	Patag, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	12.0000
J. Jaucian & Sons, Inc./ Alfred Jaucian/Agnes Jaucian/Arthur Jaucian/ Alex Jaucian	TCT-RT-1114(12187)	Patag, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	76.8093
J. Jaucian & Sons, Inc. Thru its President	TCT-RT-1110(12198)	Patag, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	11.1950
	TCT-RT-1111(12192)	Patag, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	11.1971
	TCT-RT-1112(12191)	Patag, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	11.1957
J. Jaucian & Sons, Inc./ Angelita Jaucian/ Alfred Jaucian	TCT-RT-6856(19308)	Patag, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	18.7560
Alex A. Jaucian	OCT-RP-510(28683)	Inalahan, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	9.3103
Arthur Jaucian/Armi Jaucian	TCT-RT-1251(20193)	Inalahan, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	28 0292
Angelita A. Jaucian Silva	OCT-RP-437(29577)	Patag, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	10.4491
Agnes Aspe de Jaucian	TCT-RT-6780(800)	Begajo, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	5.2447
Agnes Jaucian	TCT-RT-1249(20246)	Mambayawas, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	0.3009
Alfred Jaucian	OCT-RP-5669(28729)	Patag, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	0.5096
Agnes Jaucian	OCT-RP-5772(28728)	Sibujo, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	0.8652
J. Jaucian & Sons, Inc.	TCT-RT-6784(2194)	Sibujo, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	1.2957
Alfred Jaucian	TCT-RT-5670(28730)	Tampuhan, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	0.1376
	TCT-T-22542	Poblacion, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	1.0966
Alexander Jaucian	TCT-8160	Poblacion, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	2.1305
Agnes Jaucian	TCT-T-22544	Poblacion, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	1.0042
Alexander Jaucian	TCT-T-22547	Poblacion, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	0.4138
Joanna Agnes Silva	TCT-RT-6781(19201)	Begajo, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	7 0243
Daniel Jose Silva	TCT-RT-6782(19202)	Begajo, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	6.2661
J. Jaucian & Sons, Inc	TCT-RT-6867(19399)	Awayan, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	11.7058
Jose, Agnes and Alfred Jaucian	UT	Patag, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	8.6205
Alex and Agnes Jaucian	UT	Patag, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	2.5123
Gertrudes & Antonio Jaucian/Albert Jaucian/Vicente Rili/ Jose Oco	TCT-1260	Puro-Batia, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	13.5363
Antonio B Jaucian	TCT-16428	Puro-Batia, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	1.5057
Vicente U. Rili/Salome Romo Rili	TCT-16865	Puro-Batia, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	2.8190
	TCT-16793	Puro-Batia, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	0 0916
	TCT-RT-685(18704)	Puro-Batia, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	0.0812
	TCT-RT-686(18795)	Puro-Batia, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	0 0600
	TCT-18706	Puro-Batia, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	0.0600
	TCT-18797	Puro-Batia, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	0 0602
Vicente U Rili/Salome Romo Rili/ Leonardo Mariano	TCT-18800	Puro-Batia, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	0.1216
	TCT-RT-8687(18801)	Puro-Batia, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	0 0863
	TCT-RT-8688(18802)	Puro-Batia, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	0 0826
	TCT-18803	Puro-Batia, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	0 0804
	TCT-18804	Puro-Batia, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	0 0784
Juan U. Bagadion/Lourdes Rodrigo	TCT-RT-4672(6497)	Uson, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	49 8932
Virginia F Soriano/PNB	TCT-RT-927(7721)	Asiong, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	23 6372
Zoraida Fortuno	TCT-RT-908(7770)	Padlos, Libmanan, Camarines Sur	14 5015
Manuel Garchitorena	Lot 495, Cad 732-D	Coyao-yao Tigaon, Camarines Sur	37 8949
Hrs of Tomas Garchitorena	Lot 9515, Cad-732-D	Libod, Tigaon, Camarines Sur	36 5835
Ofelia, Fe and Rosario all surnamed Natividad	TCT RT 10725	Tinawagan, Tigaon, Camarines Sur	42.6503
Development Bank of the Philippines through its President and/or Wigberto Clavecilla	RT-4360 (Plan-G-16098)	Consocop, Tigaon, Camarines Sur	13 9833
	RT-4359 Plan 16697	Consocop, Tigaon, Camarines Sur	14.7951
Bicol Coconut Planters through its President	TCT No. 10556	San Vicente, Tinambac, Camarines Sur	8.3503
	TCT No 10554	San Antonio, Tinambac, Camarines Sur	10 9549
	TCT No 10555	Cagliliog, Tinambac, Camarines Sur	9.3329
Marilyn P Abad	TCT No 283	Union, Tinambac, Camarines Sur	13 1827
Alfredo Orbita	TCT No 3296	Union, Tinambac, Camarines Sur	15 8553
Sanyo Marketing Corporation through its President	TCT No. 13906	Del Rosario, Pamplona, Camarines Sur	60.0000
Antonio Benosa	OCT No. RP 7572 (997)	Poblacion, Pamplona, Camarines Sur	12 5586
Antonio Manvies	Lot No 2313, Pls 773-D	San Gabriel, Pamplona, Camarines Sur	17 8367
Luis and Sarah Veleo	TCT No. 7565	Calawat, Pamplona, Camarines Sur	7 7666
	TCT No 7566	Calawat, Pamplona, Camarines Sur	7 4987
	TCT NO 10236	Calawat, Pamplona, Camarines Sur	8.0000
Merchants Investment Corp. through its President/Genecio Eusebio	TCT No. RT 9538 (19885)	Bula, Camarines Sur	24.0000
Bienvenido Angeles	TCT No 2203	San Pedro, Cabusao, Camarines Sur	64 3895
Carlos Belleza	TD No 002-37	Barcelonita, Cabusao, Camarines Sur	4.7000
	TD No. 006-25	Biong, Cabusao, Camarines Sur	8.8712
	TD No. 002-36	Barcelonita, Cabusao, Camarines Sur	9.2036
Pedro Maria Calzo	Psu-118215	San Pedro, Cabusao, Camarines Sur	23 6471
Juan Carilo	97-009-00132	Daculang Tubig, San Fernando, Camarines Sur	6 5739
	97-009-00050	Daculang Tubig, San Fernando, Camarines Sur	.8668
Emiliano Saavedra	97-009-00027	Daculang Tubig, San Fernando, Camarines Sur	12 5285
Honorata Bacar	97-002-00026	Beberon, San Fernando, Camarines Sur	3.9858
	97-017-00590		
Domingo Cepardo	97-006-00009	Buenavista, San Fernando, Camarines Sur	1.6522
	97-00600010	-do-	4.5478
	97-006-00012	-do-	2.8628
Rizalina Bragais	97-006-00011	-do-	1 0138
	97-006-00014	-do-	14.3314
Restituto Oliloqui	97-007-00082	Calascagas, San Fernando, Camarines Sur	8.5000
Vicente Estrada	97-014-00330	Maragni, San Fernando, Camarines Sur	7 4202
Araceli Escandor	97-014-00343	-do-	8.5000
Felisa Viñas	97-014-00367	-do-	10 0652
Avelino Prago	97-014-00254	-do-	8.3521
Rodolfo Porlo	97-014-00333	-do-	8.5000
Salvador Culaway	97-016-00021	Pinamasagan, San Fernando, Camarines Sur	4 000
	97-016-00042	-do-	7 0353
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Andrea Ilao	97-016-00002	-do-	10 0000
Domingo Flordeliz	97-020-00107	San Joaquin, San Fernando, Camarines Sur	3 9806
	97-020-00108	-do-	3 9836
	97-020-00021	-do-	25 3544
Genoveva Malaya	97-020-00272	-do-	21 1298
Eduardo Malaya	97-020-00273	-do-	6 5062
Estanislao Oro	97-022-00093	Tagpocol, San Fernando, Camarines Sur	8 6383
	97-022-00078	-do-	1.4237
	97-022-00134	-do-	3 4386
	97-022-00165	-do-	8 5670
Eugenio Palle	97-022-00140	-do-	9 8840
Alejandro Samonte	97-022-00021	-do-	6 3638
	97-022-00014	-do-	0 7544
	97-022-00019	-do-	1.7987
Pedro Serranzana	TCT 7978	Sta. Cruz, San Fernando, Camarines Sur	2 3648
	TCT 2857	-do-	6.3505
Apolinario Ibon	97-004-00076	Bocal, San Fernando, Camarines Sur	6 8332
Francisco Amador	TCT 8656	Calascagas, San Fernando, Camarines Sur	10 8823
Pedro Bustamante	OCT-568	Maragni, San Fernando, Camarines Sur	8 4312
Maria Leyesa	TCT-1201	Lupi, San Fernando, Camarines Sur	15 7386
Richard T R Luzeriaga	TCT-4918	Del Pilar, San Fernando, Camarines Sur	19 9453
Feliciano Calalo	CAD-494-D-11230-A	Quinale, Calabanga, Camarines Sur	1 0000
	-11230-B	-do-	1.0000
	-11245	-do-	7.8108
Wilfredo Danabar	CAD-494-D-11224	Quinale, Calabanga, Camarines Sur	6 1022
	-11224-F	-do-	6 0900
Dominador Llanas	CAD-494-D	Quinale, Calabanga, Camarines Sur	6 6240
Gener Llanas	CAD-494-D-11236	Quinale, Calabanga, Camarines Sur	5 5000
Rafael San Andres	CAD-494-D-11225	Quinale, Calabanga, Camarines Sur	7 4261
Antonio Flores	TCT-5674	Tandoc, Siruma, Camarines Sur	24 0000
Rural Bank of Tabaco Inc. through its manager	TCT-RT-9725(6912)	Bahay Nuevo, Minalabac, Camarines Sur	9 0003
		GRAND TOTAL	3,365.2488

In this connection, may I invite you or your authorized representative to go to our concerned Municipal Agrarian Reform Office (MARO) within thirty (30) days after this publication to choose or pinpoint your retained area in accordance with Section 6 of RA 6657, which area should be more or less contiguous. Please bring with you your latest Statement of Production and Net Income on said landholdings to be used as determinants of the land value. Please be reminded that failure on your part to report to our concerned MARO within the above-mentioned period, our office will be constrained to identify your retained area.

Please be informed finally that under Executive Order No. 405, dated 14 June 1990, we shall request the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) to determine the land value of the concerned property being acquired pursuant to section 17 of R.A. 6657. As soon as we receive the Memorandum of Valuation from LBP, we shall advise you of the computed land value of the property.

Please be guided accordingly.

Very truly yours,

HUBERTO L. VILLARAZA
Provincial Agrarian Reform Officer/
Concurrent Asst. Regional Director
for Operations of Region V

(PDI--June 26, 2002)

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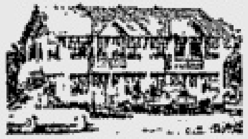

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LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the intestate estate of the late JUAN & DOLORES MONTENEGRO was extrajudicially settled by their heirs per Doc#221, Book#1, Series 2002 before Consul Rosalita Prospero of Syned, Aus.
(PDI-June 19, 26 & July 3, 2002)

PERSONAL

Atty. TIRSO O. ORESTY
Manager, GSIS Batangas Branch
A very warm and sincere greetings of a HAPPY BRITHDAY to a man whose integrity, honesty and dedication to duty cannot just be looked upon.
From Tessie Sanohan

Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
5th Judicial Region
Branch 32
Pili, Camarines Sur

ESTER L. RODRIGUEZ, ELENA R. BERNABE, EVELYN R. SENDICO, and HEIRS OF RODOLFO L. RODRIGUEZ Rep. by FREYA L. RODRIGUEZ,
Plaintiffs,
CIVIL CASE NO. P-2224
For: Recovery of Ownership and Possession and Damages
- versus -
CELSO MABESA and NOEL MABESA,
Defendants.
x---x

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

WHEREAS, on August 8, 2000, plaintiffs through counsel filed a verified complaint, the same was amended on February 21, 2002, the amended complaint is quoted in toto, as follows:

AMENDED COMPLAINT

PLAINTIFFS, represented by ESTER L. RODRIGUEZ, for herself and as Attorney-in-Fact, by counsel, unto this Honorable Court, respectfully states that:

1. Plaintiff ESTER L. RODRIGUEZ is of legal age, widow and a resident of 639 Peñafrancia Avenue, Naga City, Philippines, plaintiffs, the heirs of RODOLFO L. RODRIGUEZ represented by FREYA L. RODRIGUEZ of legal age, widow and a resident of 3689-A Street, Makati City, plaintiff ELENA RODRIGUEZ-BERNABE is also of legal age, married and a resident of 9 Rafael Corpus Street, Executive Village, BF Homes, Parañaque City, plaintiff EVELYN RODRIGUEZ-SENDICO is likewise of legal age, married and a resident of Adelfa St., Tahanan Villa, Parañaque City; while defendant CELSO MABESA is of legal age, Filipino, married and a resident of (Cadlan) Caroyroyan, Pili, Camarines Sur and co-defendant NOEL MABESA is also of legal age, Filipino and a resident of Caroyroyan, Pili, Camarines Sur where summons and other court processes may be served upon them. All the parties are with full civil capacity to sue and be sued.

STATEMENT OF RELEVANT FACTS

2. Plaintiffs are the surviving heirs of the deceased Atty. Delfin J. Rodriguez who died on April 1993;
3. Plaintiffs as heirs of the deceased Atty. Delfin J. Rodriguez, inherited a parcel of land registered in the name of said deceased person under TCT No. 14005 of the Registry of Deeds of Camarines Sur, more particularly described as Lot 624 B situated at Cadlan, (now Caroyroyan) Pili, Camarines Sur, containing an area of 1,126,995 square meters, a photocopy of said TCT is hereto attached as Annex "A" and made an integral part hereof.
4. The said parcel of land was part of TCT No. RT-295(1927) registered in the name of Atty Delfin J. Rodriguez, more particulary described as Lot 3, Plan Psu 20529 containing a bigger area of 1,141,901 square meters, which during the lifetime of Atty. Rodriguez, was subdivided into three (3) lots to give way to the barangay road of Caroyroyan, Pili. Accordingly, the three (3) subdivided lots where then denominated as:
   a) Lot 624 - with an area of 1,133,488 sq.m.
   b) Lot 898 - with an area of 6,417 sq.m. and
   c) Lot 2521 - with an area of 1,996 sq.m.

   A photocopy of TCT No. RT-295(1927) is hereto attached and marked as Annex "B" and made an integral part hereof.
5. As a result of the subdivision, only Lot 624 and Lot 898 remained as the property of Atty. Delfin J. Rodriguez as Lot 2521 became a road lot;
6. Unfortunately, when TCT No. 14005 was issued to Atty. Delfin J. Rodriguez, after the subdivision of TCT No. RT-295(1927) was made only Lot 624 was included in the technical description while Lot 898 was omitted. And the fact of omission was only discovered by the plaintiffs after the death of Atty. Delfin J. Rodriguez.
7. Thus, compelling the plaintiffs to institute a case before RTC Pili for the rectification of the error in the issuance of TCT No. 14005, which case (is) was docketed as Special Proceedings No. P-844 (pending) before Branch 32 of said court. Accordingly, on June 28, 2001, a Decision was rendered, the dispositive portion of which reads "PREMISES CONSIDERED, judgment is hereby rendered ordering the Register of Deeds of Camarines Sur to correct the technical description appearing in TCT No. 14005 in the name of Delfin J. Rodriguez by adding the duly certified technical description of Lot 898, Cad 291 it being a part of Lot 3 Plan Psu-20529 containing an area of 6,417 sq.m.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

8. Sometimes in the middle part of 1993, plaintiffs discovered that defendants Celso and Noel Mabesa took possession of the bigger portion of Lot 898 containing more or less an area of 5,000 square meters without the knowledge and consent of the plaintiffs. And because of the unlawful possession by defendants Mabesa, plaintiffs filed a case for Recovery of Ownership and Possession and Damages with Preliminary Injunction with the Regional Trial Court of Pili, Camarines Sur on November 17, 1993. Unfortunately the case was dismissed on April 21, 1996 on the ground that the court has no jurisdiction over the subject matter as the assessed value then was only P13,900.00. As of now, the new assessed value of the property is P24,450.00 as evidenced herewith by a photocopy of the A.R.P. No. 97 006 275 issued by the Provincial Assessor's Office of Camarines Sur marked as Annex "C" and made an integral part hereof.
9. At present, defendants Celso Mabesa and Noel Mabesa (is) are still in possession of the said 5,000 square meters of Lot 898 and (has) have refused to vacate the same despite demands made upon him;
10. The plaintiffs, as heirs of the late Atty. Delfin J. Rodriguez are entitled to the ownership and possession of Lot 898 to the exclusion of the defendants who (has) have no right to the property whatsoever;
11. By reason of the unlawful possession by the defendants over the subject land, (he) they must be ordered to vacate and remove at (his) their own expense whatever structures or improvements (he has) they have introduced thereon,
12. The defendants must likewise be ordered to pay to the plaintiffs the amount of P50,000.00 per year that (he has) they have been in unlawful possession of the subject landholding as reasonable rent for the use thereof;

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

13. By reason of the defendant's unlawful possession of the subject landholding and knowing fully well that (he has) they have no right thereto whatsoever, the plaintiffs have suffered severe anxiety, sleepless nights, extreme fear and social humiliation for which the defendants must be ordered to pay to the plaintiffs, the amount of P200,000.00, as by way of moral damages,
14. By reason of the defendant's disregard of the plaintiffs right over the property and by enriching (himself) themselves at the expense of the plaintiffs, the defendants must be ordered to pay the amount of P1,000,000.00 as by way of exemplary damages.
15. By reason of defendants wanton and unjustified refusal to vacate the property of the plaintiffs, the latter was compelled to seek redress before this Court and as a consequence incurred expenses in the amount of P50,000.00 for which the defendants must be ordered to pay, as by way of attorney's fees and litigation expenses.

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, it is respectfully prayed of this Honorable Court that judgment be rendered ordering the defendants as follows:

1. to vacate the 5,000 square meter of land forming part of Lot 898,
2. to demolish all structures and improvements introduced on the subject landholding and should defendants fail to do so, to authorize plaintiffs to demolish the same at the expense of the defendants.
3. to pay the amount of P50,000.00 per year that defendants (has) have been in unlawful possession of the land, as by way of reasonable lease rental thereof;
4. to pay the amount of P200,000.00, as by way of moral damages,
5. to pay the amount of P100,000.00, as by way of exemplary damages;
6. to pay the amount of P50,000.00 as by way of attorney's fees and litigation expenses.

Such other reliefs as may be deemed just and equitable under the premises.

WHEREAS, Summons together with a copy of the original complaint and its annexes was issued for service to defendant Celso Mabesa but the Sheriff's Return showed that the said process was UNSERVED as defendant is presently in the United States of America.

WHEREAS, on August 30, 2001, plaintiffs through counsel filed a motion for Leave of Court to amend complaint (quoted above) and effect service of summons by publication, said motion was granted by the court in its order dated February 8, 2002.

NOW THEREFORE, you defendants Celso Mabesa and Noel Mabesa, both with last known address at Caroyroyan, Pili, Camarines Sur are hereby summoned through this medium of publication, you are therefore required to file with the Clerk of Court V Regional Trial Court, Branch 32, Pili, Camarines Sur your responsive pleading and/or answer to the above-quoted amended complaint within sixty (60) days from the date of last publication, serving at the same time a copy of your responsive pleading and/or answer upon plaintiff's counsel, Atty. Rene Rañeses at 3rd Floor, Trader's Square Bldg. P. Burgos St., Naga City and your failure to do so within the period herein prescribed will enable the plaintiffs to take judgment against you and demand from the Honorable Court reliefs and remedies prayed for in the Amended Complaint.

Let this Summons be published at the expense of the plaintiff in the Philippine Daily Inquirer, a newspaper of general circulation in Metro Manila and in Pili, Camarines Sur, once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks, the first publication shall not be later than June 12, 2002. Furthermore, let a copy of the summons together with the Amended Complaint and annexes be deposited with the Cadlan, Pili, Camarines Sur Post Office postage pre-paid by registered mail with return card to the last known address of defendants Celso Mabesa and Noel Mabesa.

WITNESS THE HONORABLE NILO A. MALANYAON, Presiding Judge of this Court this 20th day of May, 2002 at Cadlan, Pili, Camarines Sur, Philippines.

(Sgd.) LALAINE P. MONSERATE
Clerk of Court V

(PDI - June 12, 19 & 26, 2002)

Republic of the Philippines
Local Civil Registry Office
Province of Misamis Oriental
Cagayan de Oro City

In the Matter of the Petition for Change of First Name in the Certificate of Live Birth of Rico Raganas Atup
Petition Entry No.____

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

The public is hereby notified that RICO RAGANAS ATUP has filed with this Office a petition for Change of First Name from "Landy to Rico" in the Certificate of Live Birth of Rico Raganas Atup.

At the expense of the petitioner, let a copy of this petition be published at least once a week for two (2) consecutive weeks in a newspaper of national circulation. Any person having knowledge and/or claiming interest or may be adversely affected by said petition may, within fifteen (15) calendar days, file his written opposition with this office.

(Sgd.) LEO G. WABE
City Civil Registrar

(PDI - June 19 & 26, 2002)

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To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; in You I trust, O my God
Psalm 25:1

Prof. Elisa Tabuñar del Rosario

joined her Creator on June 24, 2002.

Her husband Don Mariano (+);
her children Mariano, Jr., Marissa, Candy, Mary Ann, Tommy and Rica;
her brothers Gabino and Rodolfo, sister Nora, stepmother Adelaida;
grandchildren, great grandchildren, in-laws, other relatives and friends
request the pious reader to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the
Mount Carmel Chapel,
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Shrine Parish,
Doña Juana Rodriguez Avenue, New Manila, Quezon City.

Details of the funeral will be announced later.

Jesus said "I am the Resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies, and whoever believes in Me will never die."

John 11:25-26

OUR DEARLY BELOVED NANAY

ELSA CERVANTES CARREON

Peacefully joined our Creator and her beloved husband ANDRES C. CARREON on June 24, 2002 at the age of 97.

Her bereaved children **Mercy & Rudy** (†) **Barin, Cely** and **Benny Alvarez, Linda** (†) and **Mike** (†) **Santos, Ofelia** and **Armando Rosales, Flory** and **Baby Carreon, Myrna C. Carreon, Lenny C. Carreon** and family, **Rose** and **Nanding Cruz,** and **Hermie C. Carreon**; grandchildren; great grandchildren; relatives and friends requests the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at La Funeraria Paz, G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be announced later.

In Loving Memory

On the 20th Death Anniversary of our Beloved Father

JAMES V. LIMPE

Pasay City
December 2, 1900 - June 27, 1982

We, his family, children and children-in-law **Julius & Lily, Gloria (†) & Maning, Anna, Betty, Anthony & Emily, Jerry & Lucy, Bessie, Lilian & Richard** and all his grandchildren and great grandchildren request the pious readers to remember him in their prayers.

Holy Masses will be offered in his honor on June 27, 2002 at the following churches:

San Isidro Parish Church .... 6:00 A.M.
1830 Taft Avenue, Pasay City

Sacred Heart Shrine .... 6:00 A.M.
Sacred St., Makati

Malate Catholic Church .... 6:00 A.M.
1016 M.H. del Pilar, Malate, Manila

San Lorenzo Ruiz Minor Basilica (Binondo Church) .. 6:30 A.M.
Plaza Calderon, Binondo, Manila

Santisima Trinidad Parish .... 6:30 A.M.
1127 Estrada St., Malate, Manila

Redemptorists (Baclaran) Church .... 6:45 A.M.
Roxas Boulevard, Parañaque

Our Lady of Sorrows Church .... 6:00 P.M.
2150 F.B. Harrison, Pasay City

"Our father is gone, but his presence and guidance have never left us and we will continue to cherish him for as long as we live. God has our dearly beloved father in HIS keeping, and we have him in our hearts forever."

"We know that God raised the Lord Jesus from death. He will raise us to life with Jesus. He will present us, along with you, to God."

(2 Cor. 4:14)

SOLEDAD "LOLA CHOLENG" ENCINAREAL CAMACHO

Peacefully joined our Lord on June 25, 2002 at the age of 97.

Her remains lie in state at Holy Family Chapel, Mt. Carmel Shrine Parish, Doña Juana Rodriguez Avenue, Broadway, New Manila, Quezon City.

Cremation will be on Friday, June 28, 2002.

Lutgardo Pastrana Alquiros Sr.

of Mauban, Quezon and Lucena City

Peacefully joined his Creator on June 22, 2002 at the age of 74.

His loving wife **Leonila**, children **Glenn** and **Rosario, Jun** (†) and **Lina, Ding** and **Ellen, Loida, Leila** and **Bong, Leo** and **Nona, Lilian, Liza** and **Tom, Alice, Allen** and **Rosie** and grandchildren, request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Funeraria Alvarez, Lucena City.

The Holy Mass will be celebrated on Friday, 28th of June at 2:00 p.m. at St. Ferdinand Parish, Lucena City, after which interment will follow at Lucena Memorial Park.

Eye has not seen, ear has not heard, nor has it so much as dawned on man what God has prepared for those who love Him.

I Corinthians 2:9

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(1946 - 2002)

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Place of Birth:	Zamboanga City
Date of Simple Profession:	June 05, 1981
Date of Solemn Profession:	May 31, 1984
Date of Ordination:	September 28, 1985
Death:	June 24, 2002

INTERMENT WILL BE ON

Friday, June 28, 2002
after funeral mass at 2:00 P.M.
at Santuario de San Pedro Bautista Parish

La Loma Cemetery
La Loma Quezon City

"Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Bodily death."
St. Francis of Assisi

"Whoever serves Me must follow Me; and where I am, My servant also will be."
John 12:16

Rev. Fr. FRANCISCO "Francis" GERONIMO UMALIN

Parish Priest
Our Mother of Perpetual Help Parish
Talugtug, Nueva Ecija

peacefully joined his Creator
on June 24, 2002 at the age of 46.

The bishop, Most Rev. Leo M. Drona, SDB, DD, Clergy and Religious, the faithful and family request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Brgy. Marungko, Angat, Bulacan.

Interment will be on Saturday, June 29, 2002 at the Himlayan ng Lahi, Angat, Bulacan after the 9:00 am Mass at the Immaculate Concepcion Chapel, Marungko, Bulacan.

HELEN PANUNCIALMAN YADAO

of Davao City and So. San Francisco

died at the age of 77 in the grace of our Lord on Sunday, June 9, 2002
at the Peninsula Hospital, So. San Francisco, California

Her loving and bereaved husband **JOSE**; children **CARMELITA** (U.P. General Counsel 1991-1999 and current Director, CHED Legal Affairs), **NICOMEDES** (of PAL) and **LIZA** (Paspe), **MA. ROSARIO** and **DANTE FANGON**, **CERES ASUNCION** and **ADOLFO DELAPAZ**, and **PATRICIA** and **LIZ** (Ermitano); sister **NENA LUZ P. MAGNAYE**; grandchildren **KAYE, OCHIE, CHACHA, DONI, AINA, CORINA, NICA** and **JOSEPH**; great grandchild **KARMELA LOUISE "AMBER"**; dear friends **ROBERT SISON**, and **AGALOOS** Family, other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her cremated remains will lie in state at the Santa Maria della Strada Parish Hall at Katipunan QC on June 28, Friday (8am-12midnt) with 7pm Mass and on June 29, Saturday (6am - 12midnt) with 8pm Mass and Necrological Services. Her cremains will be laid to rest on July 19, 2002 at the Holy Cross Mausoleum, Catholic Cemetery of San Francisco, Colma, California.

BIENVENIDA LEYGO vda. De FELIZARDO

of La Trinidad, Benguet & Mandaluyong City

Died peacefully in the Grace of our Lord
and joined her beloved husband ***GENARO B. FELIZARDO, DMD***
on June 24, 2002 at the age of 99.

Her bereaved children **Mariano & Emy, Rosario & Dr. Julian Mayro, Teresita & Dr. Buenaventura Erese, Renato (†) & Erlinda**; grandchildren **Eugene & Rose, Johnny & Lizette, Joseph & Beck, Melissa, Felicia, Jeffrey & Tanya, Gene & Trishia, Greg, Gerardo & Celia, Raymund & Jacqueline, Alberto, Alvin (†), Rafael, Francis & Judith, Carlos & Mary Rose**; great grandchildren, other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal happiness in heaven.

Her remains lie in state at the Arlington Memorial Chapels, 12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment to be announced later.

I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.
John 14:6

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  2. All electrical works, fixtures and outlets including Genset part;
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  4. All sewer and plumbing works and fixtures including septic vault, cistern, water tank with cold water pumplines;
  5. All fire protection and smoke detector, fire house cabinet and fixtures;
  6. All steel grilles and glass works.
  7. All painting/varnishing works at interior walls, ceiling, cabinets, railings, grilles excluding exterior walls;

B. Installation of the following structural works including beams, columns, slab, stairs and exterior walls with concrete finishing (one side only), provision of all electrical and communication works, plumbing, water lines, downspout and fire protections
  1. Second floor
    1.a All exterior walls with finishing (one side only);
  2. Third floor
    2.a All exterior walls with finishing (one side only).
  3. Roof deck with complete water proofing and downspout;
  4. Pre-painted long span G.I. roofings with steel framings and accessories complete painted.

Deadline for submission of documents required for Pre-qualification is on **July 12, 2002.**

Bid documents may be purchased by pre-qualified bidders at the Dep Ed Caraga Regional Office with address at Km 3 Libertad, Butuan City for a nonrefundable fee of P4,000.00 per set on **July 19, 2002**. Pre-bid Conference shall be held on **July 26, 2002** at 2:00 p.m. Interested bidders may obtain further information at the same address.

Bids shall be valid for a period of 100 days after bid opening and must be accompanied by security of two and a half (2.5%) percent of total bid price or its equivalent in a convertible currency, and shall be delivered to Pre/Post qualification, Bids and Awards Committee, Dep Ed Regional Office, Caraga Administrative Region, Butuan City on or before 12:00 Noon, **August 8, 2002**. At 2:00 p.m. of said date and in the same place, all bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders who wish to attend.

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PEOPLE at WORK

Editor Raul O. Marcelo ● Subsection Editor Regina Galang Reyes

Modifying corporate culture is complex change

By Tita Datu Puangco

Advice

FOR THE ANXIOUS PERSON AT WORK

OUR organization has engaged in a bold long-term organizational and infrastructure development. We have done countless planning sessions and changes in the vision/ mission statements, but the "traditional" working culture still persists.

The company is a family-owned corporation in which the family members' varied viewpoints affect the decision-making process. Employee morale and behavior are somehow dispirited in spite of the various change management programs being adopted. The "traditional" style of management is still very much manifested, be it in the micro or macro-organizational perspective. This is reflected in our department where employees' dynamism stagnate. No matter how much effort one undertakes, most of the personnel just seem to be contented and laid back in their daily work routines.

I have read and considered several change management concepts myself, but it appears that I am always short in my applications. I don't know if it is the system that corrupts my execution. Or there's just no way that my co-employees would become receptive to these changes.

Although our department is just one of the various support service units in the organization, I know people are capable of carrying out greater responsibilities and opportunities. There is still enough hope for the realization of these so-called objectives.

Our organization is still in the transition period in the organizational learning curve for change. Nonetheless, I want my co- employees to be proactive and dynamic to be able to respond to the call of change. I want them to take that little extra step towards the monumental change that beckons in our midst.

I would be really grateful if you could share your valuable insights into this matter.

Change Enthusiast

Performance supportCongratulations for continuing to be optimistic in spite of setbacks in your change management efforts! Clearly, in your case, you would need a consultant experienced in successfully managing complex change. It is important for an external team to diagnose your organization and to identify the possible interventions that have to be undertaken. The change initiative has to be relatively long term (minimum of two years) based on my initial assessment.

Complex

Changing culture is complex change since culture is an outcome of the interaction of tasks, structure and people. It is also greatly influenced by leadership styles and norms. In your case, you are actually engaged in multiple changes: changing culture and behaviors, infrastructure development, transitioning from a traditional family corporation to a professional one and the geographical reach of your operations.

Further more, it can happen that as an internal change agent, how you view the situation may color issues. You can be the source of solutions but may also form part of the problem. I say this based on my over a dozen years of experience in big corporations managing units engaged in organization development.

For successful change to happen, three coalitions are needed. One is the leadership coalition. Collectively, leadership has to co-develop the plan and commit to it. For leadership, it is the test and discipline of commitment. Together it has to examine what behaviors of leaders are negating the change effort. When leadership hides behind the cloak of "management prerogative," rather than taking time to explain exceptions to the plan, automatically, leadership credibility suffers. When people down the line sense that leadership is not really committing to the change, then they also de-commit. Sooner or later, their efforts bottom out. In most cases, executive team building is needed to unify the team. It is critical for them to discuss differences to be able for them to speak with one voice.

Involvement

The second is the active involvement, ownership and participation of stakeholders, specially the employees. Interventions required are in the areas of communication, training and changing policy and structures that hinder new behaviors and practices from emerging. Employees have to take responsibility for the change. No one can force a person to change. He has to make a personal commitment to change. While people in management have a positive and proactive attitude to change, it may not be so with ordinary employees. Ordinary employees can cite to you the number of instances when they tried to change and they were not rewarded but instead punished by the experience. And yet, unless majority of the employees go for the change, you will not be able to muster the critical mass needed for change to tip in the favor of the vision.

Finally, most change requires new behaviors, processes, structures and systems. An enterprise will need reliable performance support. Performance support will require the partnership between internal and external change consultants working together. External change consultants provide the balance and the assurance that the change is in fact happening and succeeding. Often, top management is likely to listen more intently to what an external consultant is saying. After all, the consultant being paid well has to add value to the organization. The internal performance support ensures the continuity of the change effort when the external consultant fades from the scene.

Theater

Try to imagine a major change as producing a theatrical presentation. The leaders write the script, direct and produce the play. The actors on the stage are the employees who must know exactly what to do and say. Performance support determines when the curtain rises and when it falls. It ensures that the proper props, lighting and sound system operate with excellence. Finally, make sure your change plan is an integrated one, aligning the requirements of the business with the organization and vice versa.

Wishing you only the best as a change enthusiast.

(Ms Puangco is CEO and president of Ancilla Enterprise Development Consulting. Send comments, feedback or requests for advice through e-mail to ancillaedc@ pacific.net.ph or fax to 892-2902.)

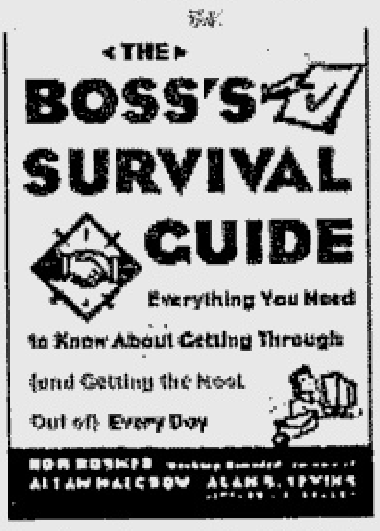
August seminars focus on 'Better Bossing'

SPONSORS who care for people at work pool collective resources to bring to the public world-class learning at popular prices with the People at Work Live! Seminar Series for August which will feature Bob Rosner. He will fly in from Seattle, Washington, USA to give presentations on "12 Steps to Better Bossing" and "Managing Against the Odds (Advice for the Working Wounded)" on August 14 and 15, 2002 at the Santiago Hall, Mezzanine, Equitable PCI Bank Tower 1 on Makati Ave., Makati City. Rosner is known for his insightful and humorous presentations on solutions to workplace problems. As the HR Director of Starbucks, US, commented, "Get ready to laugh and learn."

Rosner is the author of the best-selling books, The Boss's Survival Guide (McGraw Hill, 2001) and Working Wounded: Advice that Adds Insight to Injury (Warner Books, 1998). He is also a much-sought after trainor/ speaker in the US and various parts of the globe. He is also an internationally syndicated columnist with his column "Working Wounded" appearing in over 100 newspapers worldwide, including the Los Angeles Times, New York Daily Post and the Philippine Daily Inquirer, and in various popular web sites. He is also the creator of workingwounded.com which was named Forbes' Best of the Web last year and is consultant to Fortune 500 companies.

Presentors of this event are the Philippine Daily Inquirer, Philippine Long Distance and Telephone Company and Northwest Airlines. Other corporate sponsors are Equitable PCI Bank, Power Books Specialty Store, McGraw Hill Education, Voyages and Vacations, Mircodata Systems and Management, Inc., Adobo Interactive Inc. and Paradigms and Paradoxes Consultants.The multi-media marketing blitz will be provided, aside from the Philippine Daily Inquirer, by media sponsors, INQ7 Interactive, Inc. (www.inquirer.net), Manila Broadcasting Company (DZRH), ABS-CBN Publishing Inc. (Metro and Metro Working Mom), Edsamail and Single Search Philippines (www.match.ph).

This event is being organized by Optimus Managers & Advisors, Inc. For inquiries, call tel. 414-0186, 414-0587.



Why 'good' is not enough

RECIPES for LEARNING

Moje Ramos-Aquino

HELLO, dear readers, I am back! Did you miss me?

Learning and performance professionals from around the world convened at the ASTD (American Society for Training & Development) 2002 International Conference and EXPO from June 2 to 6 at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA. There were about 30 Filipinos in attendance. Among them were Marivic Roldan of Monark Group, Milalin Javellana of the Australian Embassy, Chito San Mateo of PDI, Zelly Tan and Evelyn Lozada of ICTSI, Anthony Pangilinan of Channel 13 and Jo Javier of the Asian Development Bank.

Briefings

Some of my more memorable experiences were our press briefings with Jim Collins, author of bestsellers "Built to Last" and "Good to Great," former President Dr. Oscar Arias of Costa Rica and some of the leading suppliers of HR products and services. Alsounforgetable were the brief conversations and picture-taking with authors James Kouzes, Ken Blanchard, Bob Pike and others. They were very insightful and thought provoking. Not to mention *nakakakilig* to the bones. Ms Jennifer Homer, director for public relations of ASTD, made these possible.

During Collin's keynote speech, he said that building something great is not an event, it is cumulative. It is not an instantaneous, dramatic overnight thing. It is a process; it is evolutionary, although, from an outsider's point of view it may seem to be a breakthrough. On the other hand, he surmised that Andersen Consulting lost its values, its compass. He emphasized that a series of daily decisions results to little changes that may eventually lead to erosion and corruption in an organization. The process is slow in unraveling.

Questions

In our interview with Jim Collins, I asked him: "What's wrong with being good? What's wrong with number 2? All that really matters in this world is your relationship with Him." He paused for a long while and then he burst into what seemed like nervous laughter and said, "I have difficulty processing that question because I am American." He paused a longer time before he said something about cultural diversity and added that another perspective is to ask oneself, "How would the world be successful/worst off when I am gone?"

Come to think of it, what we Filipinos consider as "pride" or "fried chicken" is something natural to Americans. They are always aspiring to be great, to be Number One, to be the first, to be on top, to be the best. What's wrong with that? Well, it has made USA the most powerful nation in the whole world. Any product or service that comes from USA is undoubtedly top quality. Stateside, *eh.*

Independent-thinking

American children are taught to be independent as soon as they can speak. They are taught and given the opportunity to make decisions, to solve problems, to think for themselves. They are taught and shown examples of how to be innovative and creative, how to challenge the status quo, how to speak out for their rights and beliefs and those of others. Eventually they aspire to be great, to be Number One, to be the first, to be on top, to always be the best.

How about Filipino children? They are told: Bow your head. Clasp your hands in front of you. Don't speak when I am speaking to you. Your mother, father, *lolo, lola*, auntie, uncle, *ate, kuya*, your teacher, the priest will not approve of that. Say "*po*," "*opo*," "*ho*," and "*oho*." Obey your elders.

Celebrating success

Americans are celebrated when they achieve. Notice how Tiger Woods, Michael Jordan and Robert Horry would proudly gesture and strut like the champions that they are after scoring winning points. They claim their greatness. The reaction from the audience is a thunderous applause from all believers and nonbelievers, a shower of kisses and flowers and ovations. The losers are urged to do better.

How about Filipinos? Be humble in success. "*Nakatsamba lang po." Hiyang-hiya tayo na magpakita ng galing kasi baka masabing nagyayabang.* The Filipino audience shows their bias till the end. *Kung Ginebra ka at natalo, nadaya! Kung Purefoods ka at nag-champion, nahirapan nga kami kasi magaling ang kalaban.* The winners and losers are booed by opposing camps.

As Jim Collins says it is cultural. *Dedma na lang ako.*

Changing people

It is time for us Filipinos to claim our successes, our victories and be proud. Jim Collins said, "You don't change the organization (in our case, our country). You change people, revive their brains and change the way they do. Then, the organization (the country) will change."

Amen.

That is what former Marikina Mayor Bayani Fernando did in Marikina. He changed the thinking and behavior patterns of people in Marikina by imposing and implementing necessary rules and laws and they responded positively. And Marikina has now become a very livable and commercially viable city.

I am very happy and hopeful now that he is top honcho at the MMDA. Mr. Fernando, *isa lang po ang hiling ko*. Please clean the streets and sidewalks of Metro Manila. Give back the streets to moving vehicles and the sidewalks to walking pedestrians. Like you did in Marikina. Discipline starts here as you very well experienced in Marikina. Please *lang po*. We will all be praying for your success. We will definitely contribute to your success. Metro Manila will be great, will be Number One, will be the first, will be the best and will be on top. Mr. Fernando, please lead the way.

(Send feedback to Moje.Ramos@Aquino.ZZN.com)

For working moms, business trips may become guilt trips

WORKING MOM

An Mercado Alcantara

IT'S close to midnight and I am writing this column by my daughter's bedside. I'm leaving on a business trip tomorrow, will be gone for a couple of days, so we're both going through withdrawals tonight. Anticipating that I won't be here tomorrow, she doesn't want me out of her sight as she lulls herself to sleep. So I plant my laptop on a TV tray, pull my chair beside her, and make sure she's within my arm's reach.

In between writing sentences, I pat her to sleep. The gentle rhythm assures her that I am still here, not yet taken away by the unseen hand that often takes so much from me-- and from her. My palm rises and falls with her breathing; my fingers escape a few seconds to type out some words, and then return to her hip again to tap out the beat of a mother's silent lullaby.

Tomorrow night I will not be here, but I'm hoping her skin will remember the rhythmic pat to slumber. It is the only thought that keeps my guilt at bay.

Stress points

Business trips that take us away from our kids rank among the highest stress points in a working mom's life. The need to choose between work and family rarely gets as stark as when you need to spend days and nights away from home. In fact, for days before this trip, the working moms in our team struggled to make the necessary arrangements to make sure their kids will be alright while we're gone.

Vinky, our events manager, brought her five-month-old baby with her to work over the weekend. Anticipating that she will be gone most of the coming week, she bundled up her baby in a carrier strapped to her chest and went about her work nonchalantly. It didn't matter that her baby slept through most of the morning, the important thing was they were together, bonding skin to skin, despite her work. She's made arrangements with her mother to stay with her baby while she's away, but until this morning, she was still toying with the idea of taking her baby along with her on the trip.

Mawi, our managing editor, took the risk and brought her five-year-old son to the last business trip we had. She came armed with a duffle bag of snacks, an envelope stuffed with art materials, and an army of little toy monsters. She also made sure that she was extra prepared for the brainstorming sessions, volunteering ideas immediately, giving her contributions early into the ballgame, because she didn't want the presence of her son to undermine her professionalism. But for tomorrow's trip, Mawi had to beg off. Her yaya had other plans. She resigned, leaving Mawi no choice but to beg off from the trip.

Dilemmas

How do you make the decision between going off on the trip and leaving your child behind, taking your child with you, or not going on the trip at all?

Ask yourself the following questions:

* How important is this trip to achieving my work and personal goals? If you are the key player in this trip, then it would very unprofessional for you not to go. If the objective of the trip is to plan and set strategic goals, you'll have to be there to make sure that your inputs are taken into consideration. In contrast, if the business trip will not bring you closer to your job and career goals, then you have the option not to go.

* Who can stay with the kids while I am gone? A reliable support system is important to have if your job takes you away from home. Find out if your kids can stay with a friend or a relative or if someone can come over to baby and house sit while you are gone.

* Are you going to miss an important event in your kids' life? It could be a basketball game, a school play, or swimming practice. But business trips do tend to fall on days when our kids need us. Ask yourself, is this event a recurring event? In other words, if you miss it, will there be other chances for you to see it again?

* Is your company culture open to having kids around? Before you bring your kids on the trip, find out how receptive management is to the idea. If management believes that having kids around will affect your productivity during the trip, then it will not be a good idea to bring the kids. You may decide to stay on longer at the venue and have your kids follow later when the business conference is over.

I'm back to patting my daughter to sleep again. She stirred a little bit as I was in mid-paragraph, but she snoozed again after she saw me still by her side. And so, for tonight at least, my working mom guilt is less.

(An Mercado-Alcantara is editor-in-chief of ABS-CBN Publishing's MetroWorking Mom. You may reach her at working-mom@pinoycentral.com.*)*

Your one hour can make a difference!

SIGN up for the Hands On Manila New Volunteers' orientation on June 28, 2002, Friday, 6 p.m. at Powerbooks, Pasay Road, Makati City. Your one hour will allow you to volunteer in service projects of Hands On Manila's more than twenty partner organizations. You will have a choice of involving yourself in programs for the children and youth, clean up projects and environment, culture and arts, computers and technology.

Hands On Manila Foundation, Inc. promotes a new way to volunteer through the flexibility model of volunteer service. Groups and corporations may also participate in the various projects that take place before and after office hours and on weekends. The only requirement is to attend the one hour orientation which is scheduled every month. To sign up, please call HOM at 843-7044 and 843-5231 or send an e-mail to handsonmla@edsamail.com.ph.

BUSINESS

Gokongweis to get 16 ha. in Boni lots

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE GOKONGWEI group is hoping to get some 12.5 to 16.5 hectares of net saleable land in the Fort Bonifacio Global City once it concludes a deal to take a controlling stake in Bonifacio Land Corp.

Persons familiar with the transaction said the Gokongwei group could renegotiate terms of the Bonifacio Land deal should it discover "materially adverse" items after a due diligence audit.

Tycoon John Gokongwei Jr. and Hong Kong's First Pacific Co. Ltd. have agreed to form a joint venture that will hold First Pacific's 24.47-percent stake in Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. and the 50.4-percent stake of its Philippine unit, Metro Pacific Corp., in Bonifacio Land.

The Gokongweis will pay the cash-hungry First Pacific over $600 million for a two-thirds stake in the joint venture.

The joint venture will assume a $105-million debt that Metro Pacific owes First Pacific through offshore unit Larouge BV.

The Metro Pacific board has been granted sweeping powers by its shareholders to block a due diligence audit by the Gokongwei group.

A source said if the valuation would be "adverse" by over $50 million, the Gokongwei group could renegotiate the terms of the Bonifacio Land deal.

"For instance, if the actual land in terms of hectares is different from the level assumed and if the contingent liabilities are greater, these would be materially adverse," a stock analyst of a foreign stockbrokerage explained.

The Gokongwei group told analysts that it would be "materially adverse" to their position if the master development plan of the 150-hectare Fort Bonifacio Global City could not be modified.

The group said restrictions would lessen the premium that its joint venture with First Pacific would pay for the Bonifacio Land stake, considering its plan to go heavy on retail and other commercial developments.

Metro Pacific has estimated that the 50.4-percent stake in Bonifacio Land should have a book value of over P40 billion. Its board is opposing the deal, as it believes it has "grossly undervalued" the price of its properties.

The First Pacific-Gokongwei group values the property at P39,000 to P55,000 per square meter.

Petrochem firms offer resin subsidy

THE ASSOCIATION of Petrochemical Manufacturers of the Philippines has committed to support agricultural exporters by subsidizing their resin inputs used for packaging their products.

APMP chair and JG Petrochemical president Willie Paras said the group would provide "competitively priced resin products tax- and duty-free regardless of the eventual tariff rate that would be set by the Tariff Commission."

This commitment should keep costs of agriculture exporters stable even with the proposed tariff changes on resins.

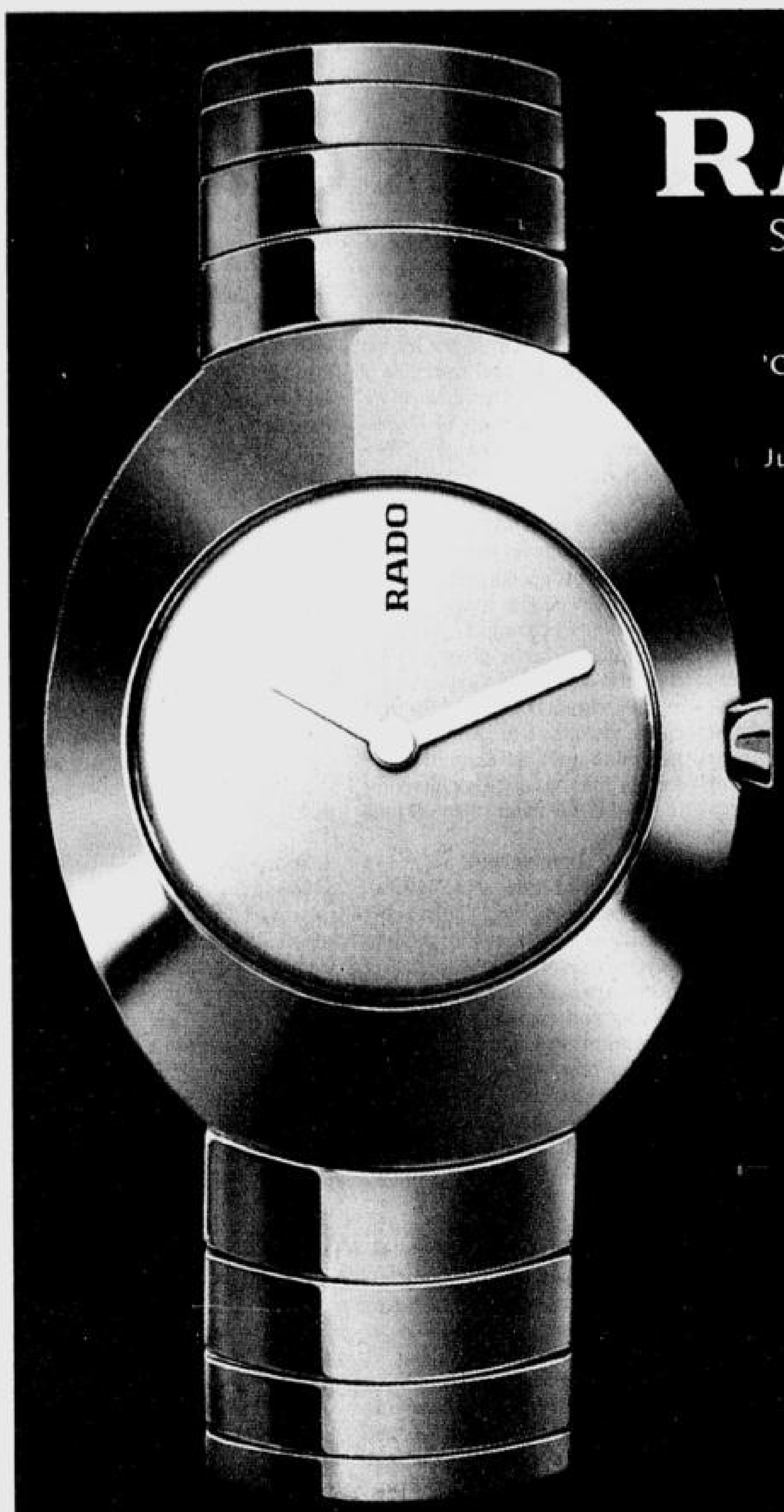
The APMP has filed a petition with the Tariff Commission for an increase in tariffs on resins or polymers—the base material for plastic products—from 15 percent to 30 percent that, according to Paras, is aimed at helping the industry survive through its "infancy stage."

The Tariff Commission yesterday held its first public hearing on the issue.

Paras said local petrochemical firms JG Petrochemical, Petrochemical Corp. of the Philippines and Bataan Polyethylene had invested P50 billion over the last five years. These firms were prepared to pump in more capital over the next few years to build a local naphtha cracker plant, which would lead to a full integration of the industry, he added.

Paras said higher tariff protection for the industry would make up for the government's previous decision to bring down duties on polyethylene and polypropylene (the main products of petrochemical plants) faster than any country in the region in the past few years.

The Philippines' 15-percent tariff on resins is substantially lower than the 25- to 40-percent duty protection granted by Taiwan, South Korea, Japan, India, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia during the infancy stage of their petrochemical industries. ***Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.***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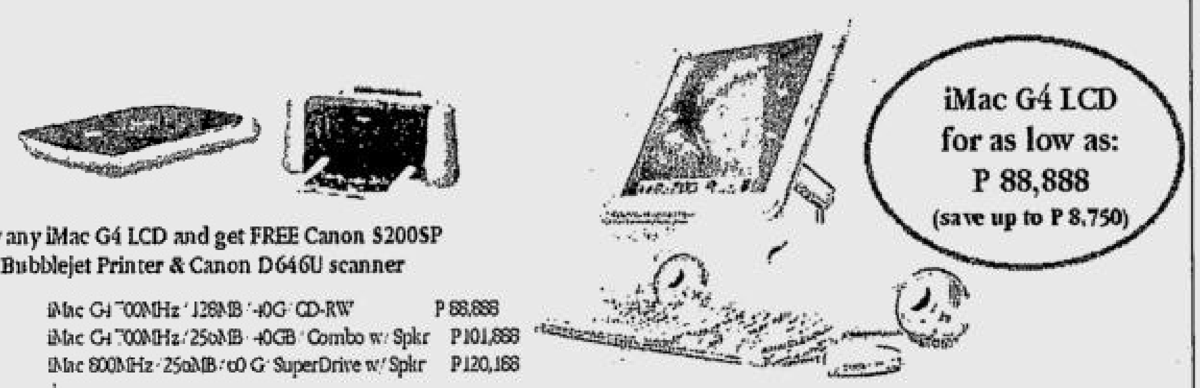
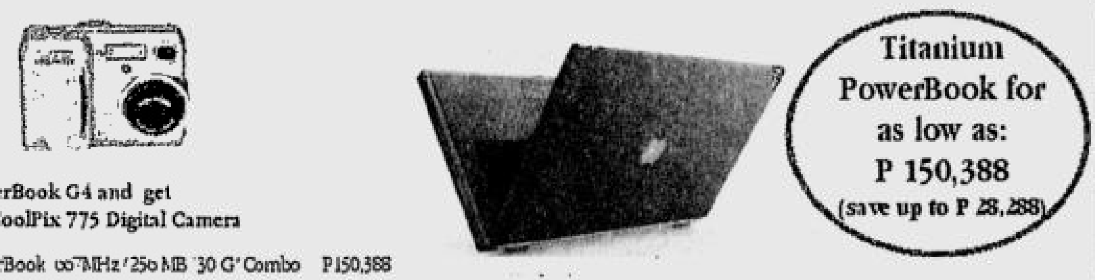
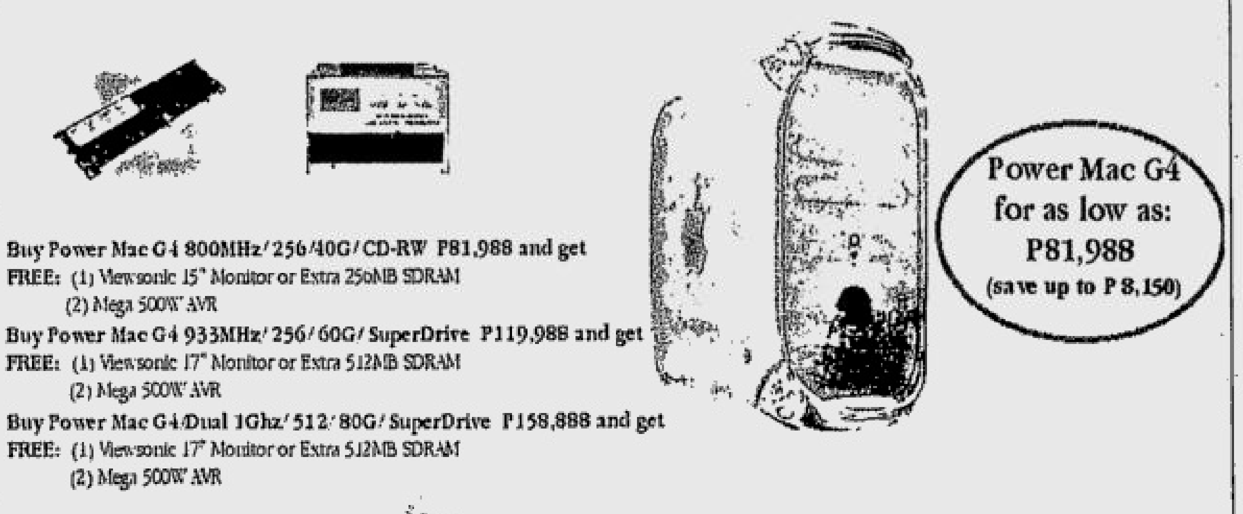

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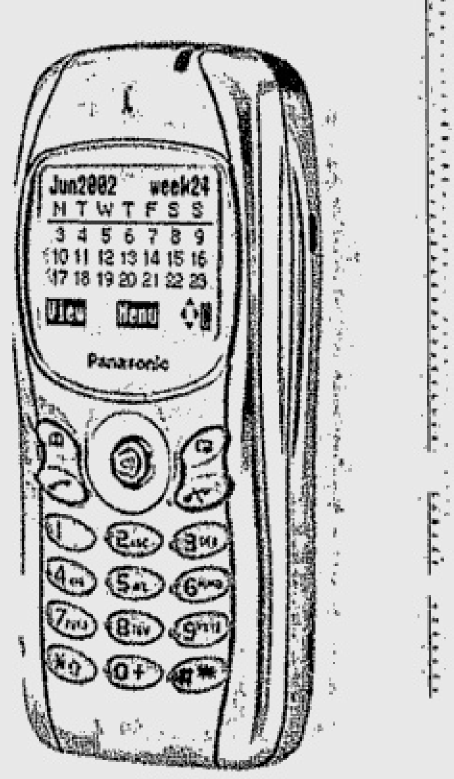

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LIFESTYLE

Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso ® Chief of Correspondents Pam Pastor

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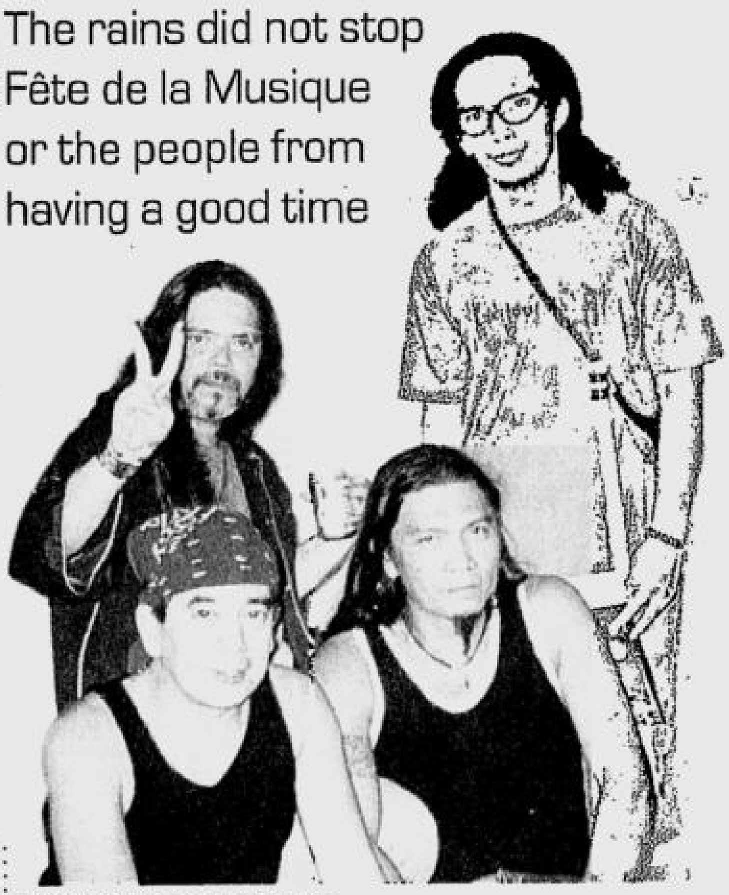
Feast of music and peace

The rains did not stop Fête de la Musique or the people from having a good time



PINIKPIKAN stops the rains

Text and photos by Maui V. Reyes
2bU! Correspondent

BILLY Bonnive of the ensemble Pinikpikan looked up to the skies and smiled.

"I talked to the moon for the rains to stop...because tonight is a night for music, and us artists are close to the gods because music is like prayer," he said, before facing me with that same grin on his face, a beer in hand. People gathered around to hear them play.

Neither rain nor a small venue could stop musicians, fans and peace advocates from flocking to El Pueblo last Saturday for the annual Fête de la Musique, a celebration of music that the *trés* cultured French started back in 1982. That night, in the little town within the heart of Ortigas Center, 35 bands satisfied the appetites of Filipinos for music—for free.

Cynthia Alexander, slated to play the main stage and open the event, had to wait out 30 minutes for the rains to stop. Mother Nature wouldn't cooperate at first—so the band moved to Sidebar and opened the event there. Once the rains stopped though, the diverse musicality of our top Filipino performers started pouring down.

Rookies

Aside from the overwhelming range of music genres sprinkled all over a single venue, one irresistibly amazing thing about the Fete was that fresh, new acts were allowed to perform in-between big-name acts.

Nityalila, who played Sidebar, was one of the relatively young acts. Having picked up the guitar at 7 and sent to the convent school when she was 10, Nityalila (dubbed "Mother Mary" by her band mates) started composing at 14 and came up with her own style at 16. Normally opening for Cynthia Alexander, who usually calls her up the stage to jam with her, as well as Imago, Nityalila had been playing for the Fête for four years now.

"The funny thing is, I've followed the Fête since it started here in the Philippines. I can't believe I'm actually playing the Fête," she said.

FEAST/ p.C3

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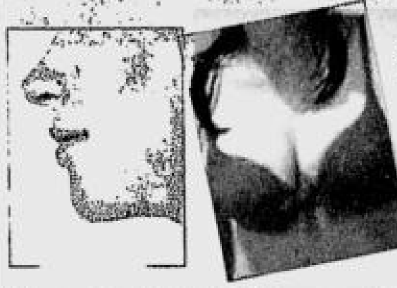

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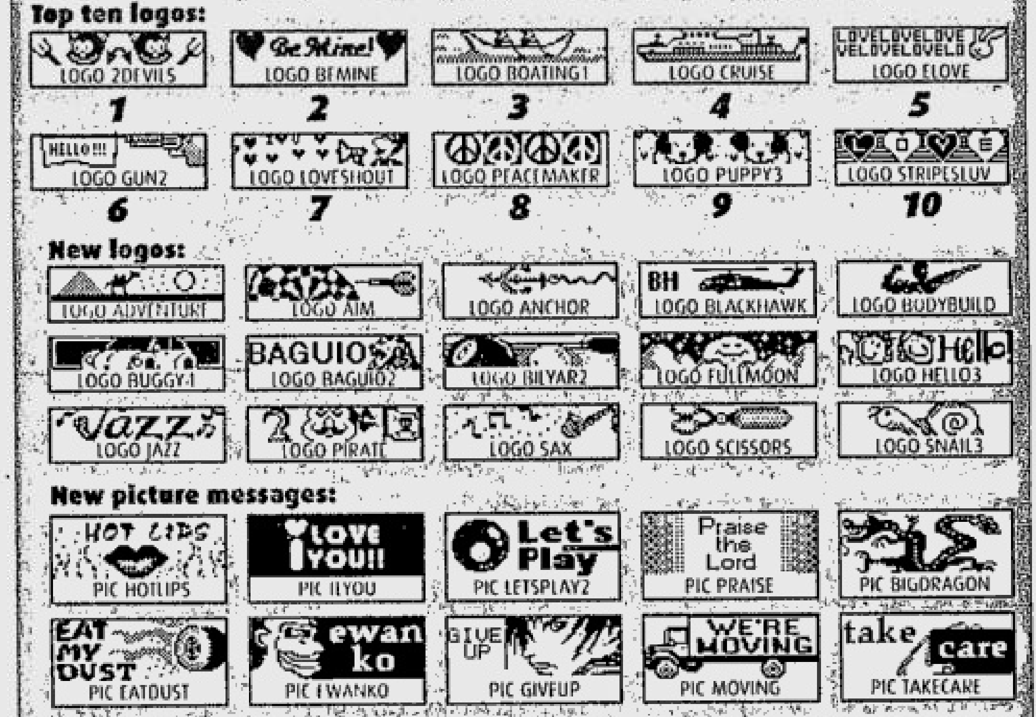

New ring tones:
[illegible]

Top ten ring tones:
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1 [illegible]
2 [illegible]
3 [illegible]

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LOGO ADVENTURE
288
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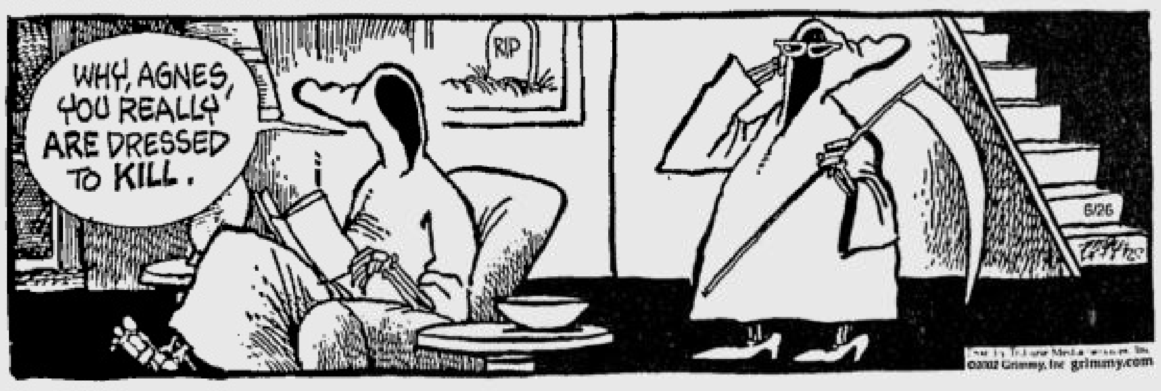
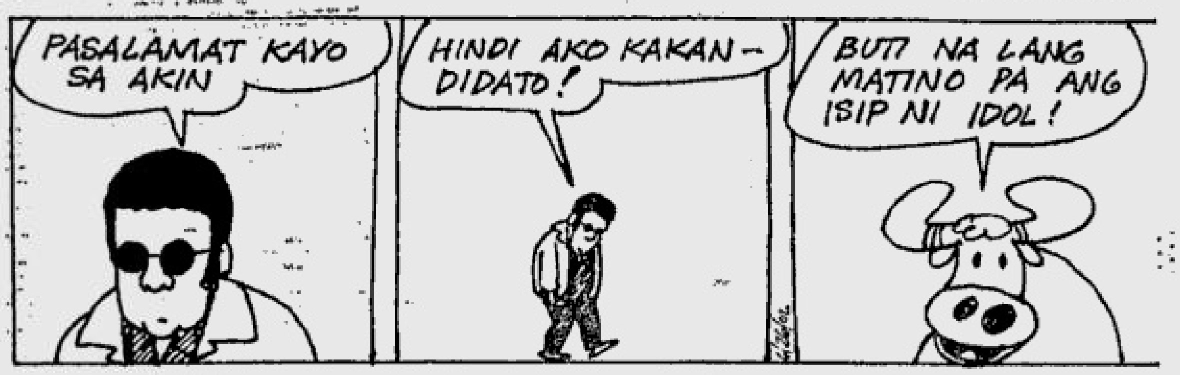
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS


WHY, AGNES, YOU REALLY ARE DRESSED TO KILL.
RIP
6/26

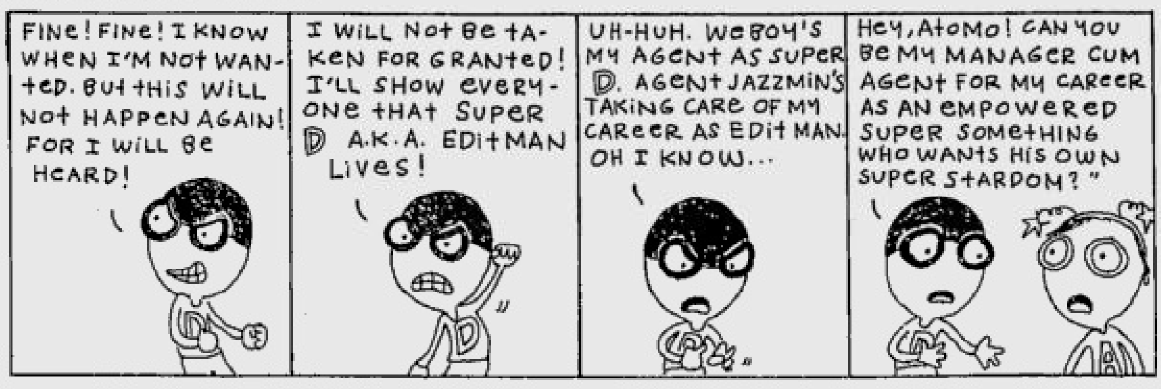
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


PASALAMAT KAYO SA AKIN
HINDI AKO KAKAN-DIDATO!
BUTI NA LANG MATINO PA ANG ISIP NI IDOL!

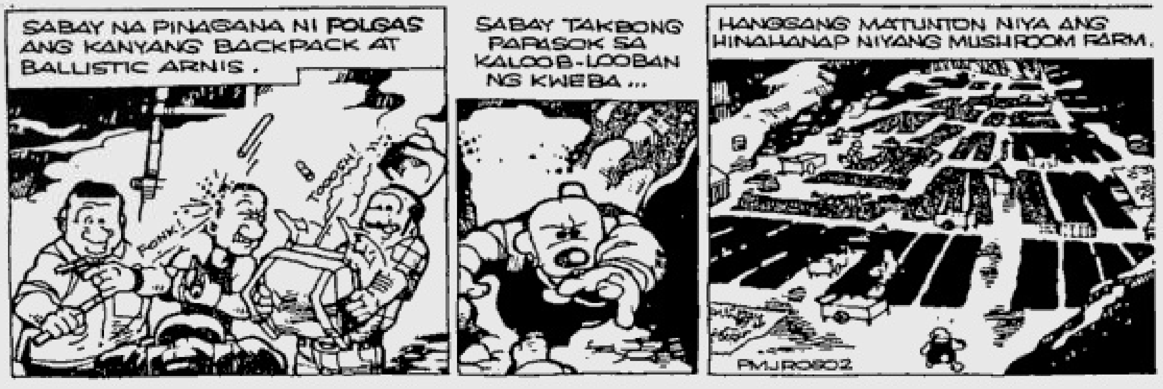
ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


FINE! FINE! I KNOW WHEN I'M NOT WANTED. BUT THIS WILL NOT HAPPEN AGAIN! FOR I WILL BE HEARD!
I WILL NOT BE TAKEN FOR GRANTED! I'LL SHOW EVERYONE THAT SUPER D A.K.A. EDITMAN LIVES!
UH-HUH. WEBOY'S MY AGENT AS SUPER D. AGENT JAZZMIN'S TAKING CARE OF MY CAREER AS EDIT MAN. OH I KNOW...
HEY, ATOMO! CAN YOU BE MY MANAGER CUM AGENT FOR MY CAREER AS AN EMPOWERED SUPER SOMETHING WHO WANTS HIS OWN SUPER STARDOM?"

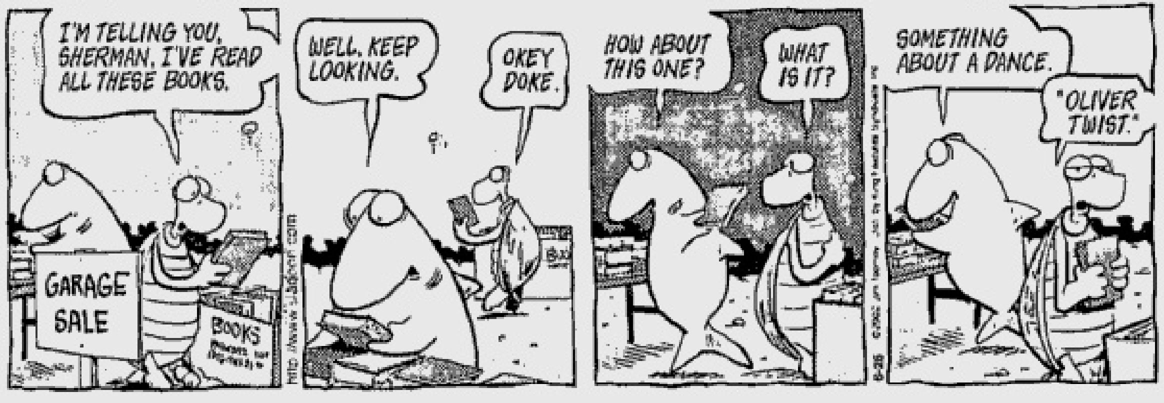
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


SABAY NA PINAGANA NI POLGAS ANG KANYANG BACKPACK AT BALLISTIC ARNIS.
SABAY TAKBONG PAPASOK SA KALOOB-LOOBAN NG KWEBA...
HANGGANG MATUNTON NIYA ANG HINAHANAP NIYANG MUSHROOM FARM.
PMJR0802

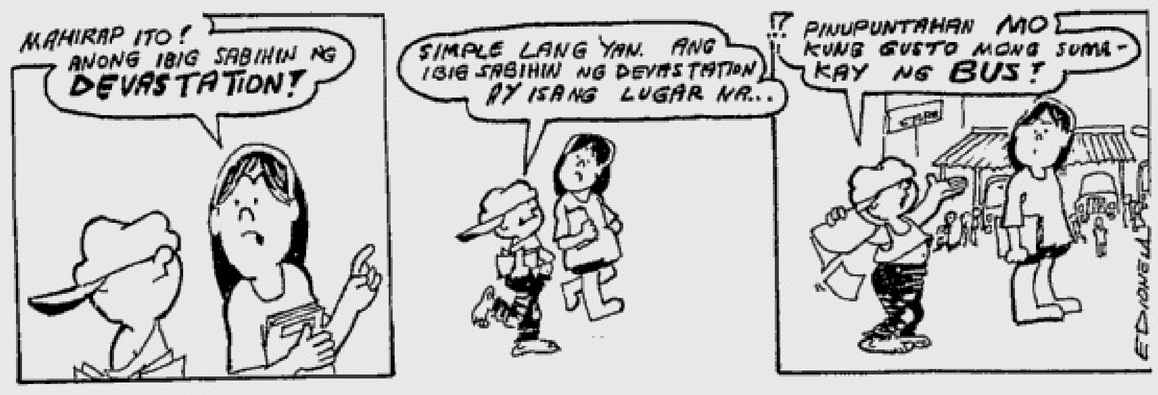
SHERMAN'S LAGOON

BY JIM TOOMEY


I'M TELLING YOU, SHERMAN, I'VE READ ALL THESE BOOKS.
GARAGE SALE
BOOKS
WELL, KEEP LOOKING.
OKEY DOKE.
HOW ABOUT THIS ONE?
WHAT IS IT?
SOMETHING ABOUT A DANCE.
"OLIVER TWIST."

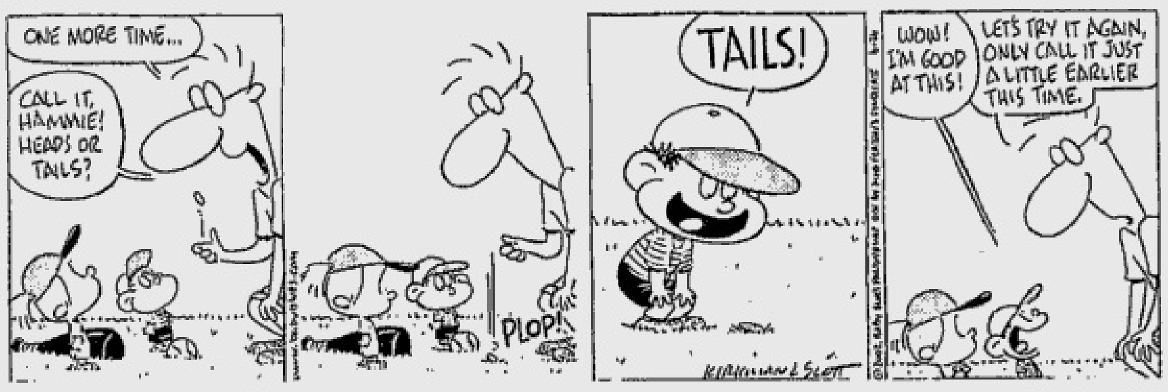
SIMO

BY EDGAR DIONELA


MAHIRAP ITO! ANONG IBIG SABIHIN NG DEVASTATION?
SIMPLE LANG YAN. ANG IBIG SABIHIN NG DEVASTATION AY ISANG LUGAR NA...
PINUPUNTAHAN MO KUNG GUSTO MONG SUMAKAY NG BUS!
EDIONELA

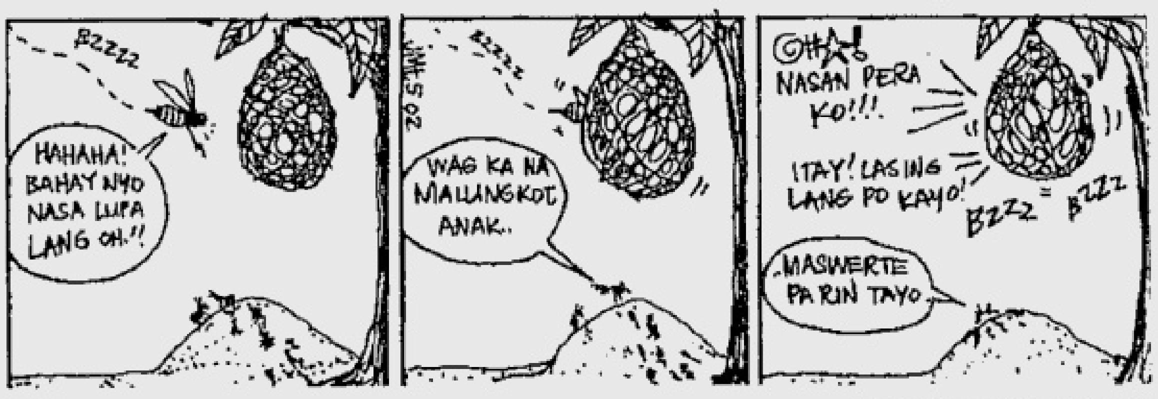
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


ONE MORE TIME...
CALL IT, HAMMIE! HEADS OR TAILS?
PLOP!
TAILS!
WOW! I'M GOOD AT THIS!
LET'S TRY IT AGAIN, ONLY CALL IT JUST A LITTLE EARLIER THIS TIME.
KIRKMAN & SCOTT

MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


BZZZZ
HAHAHA! BAHAY NYO NASA LUPA LANG OH.!!
WAG KA NA MALUNGKOT ANAK..
OHA! NASAN PERA KO!!!
ITAY! LASING LANG PO KAYO!
BZZZ BZZZ
MASWERTE PA RIN TAYO

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Pearl S. Buck, Peter Lorre, Colin Wilson, Pamela Bellwood

Happy Birthday: You will easily win the hearts of those you encounter this year. You will have intuitive insight into those you care about. Let your creative senses develop this year. You have a lot to offer, if you focus on your talents. This is a perfect year to listen to your heart and follow your dreams. Your numbers are 5, 19, 27, 33, 41, 45

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Opportunities are available to you but if you become headstrong you may miss out on a chance to get ahead. Compromise a little today and find yourself in a good position.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): This is a perfect day to meet new people, get together with old friends or simply enjoy working on projects you enjoy. Get busy and start producing.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Renovations to your home will add to its value but you will have to be careful that you don't go into debt in order to proceed. Financial opportunities will develop .

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Keep in mind that just because someone flirts with you doesn't necessarily mean that he or she is interested in you. A one-sided relationship is likely.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You can get ahead today if you play your cards right. You can gain respect and make deals if you use your quick wit and charm to convince your peers that you are on to something big.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Use your time to make the little changes that will perfect your looks and your future. Physical activity will help get you into shape. Put extra detail into your creative endeavors.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You may want to keep your thoughts to yourself today especially at a personal level. A family member is not likely to agree with you. You will be sensitive today and should refrain from discussing personal matters.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Opportunities will come from the most bizarre and unlikely sources. Take the time to hear someone out, especially if he or she comes from a totally different background.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You can make money if you take advantage of a deal, but be sure to handle all of the particulars yourself. Trusting others to do a job for you will be your downfall. Protect your own interests.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Partnerships could turn out to be fruitful. Your original moneymaking ideas will start to pay off. Try to incorporate a friend as your partner.

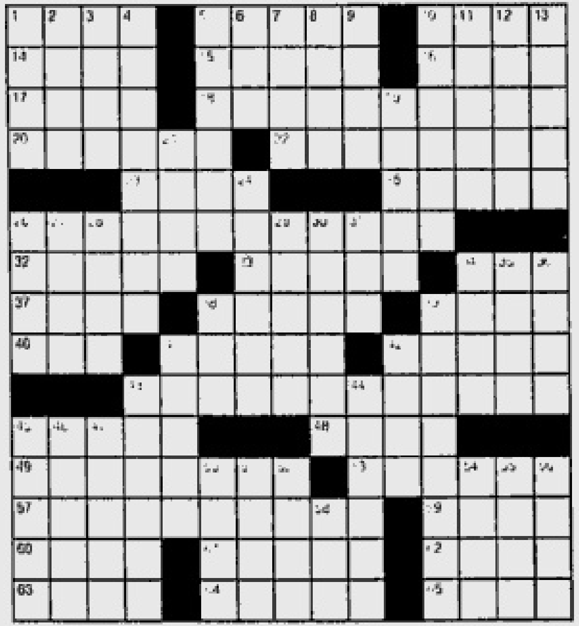
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Keep a close eye on those who are lurking around in the background while you're on the phone or discussing important matters with someone else. Help an older relative with his or her concerns.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You'll be in the limelight if you attend an event or fundraiser. Your creative ideas will help to make this gala a success. Don't be surprised if someone is jealous of you.

Birthday Baby: You will have an intellectual, precise way of communicating with others. You will be charming, entertaining, and will aggressively take action to get what you want.

DAILY CROSSWORD

TMSPuzzles@aol.com



By Philip J. Anderson
Portland, OR

6/26/02

ACROSS
1 Extended narrative poem
5 Type of lily
10 First word, often
14 Clytemnestra's mother
15 Bermuda or Vidalia, e.g.
16 Chief Norse god
17 __ of Gilead
18 Type of combat
20 Syrian city
22 Adolescent
23 Ice mass
25 Sorenstam or Parnevik, e.g.
26 Type of dancing
32 Soup scoop
33 Sheep call
34 Besmirch
37 By mouth
38 Paul Verlaine poem, "__ de lune"
39 Mexican bread?
40 Poorly lit
41 Long lock or ringlet
42 German Dadaist Max
43 Type of resuscitation
45 "__ Love"
48 Put to sea
49 Crest of foam
53 Garden scoop
57 Type of confrontation
59 __ contendere
60 PC operator
61 More ironic
62 Handhold
63 Fewer
64 Misplaces
65 Hook's underling

DOWN
1 Napoleon's first isle of exile
2 Toil
3 Taking it easy
4 Earl or Glen
5 Accomplice
6 Santa __, CA
7 Fuzz
8 Ore deposit
9 Pot sweetener
10 Hudson tributary
11 Maxim
12 Exploited a vein
13 Agassi of tennis
19 Start
21 Certain lapdog, briefly
24 Drinking vessel
26 Hunk of dirt
27 Spy Mata
28 Mild, yellow cheese
29 Butt heads
30 Holdups
31 Serving of corn
34 Bill of fare
35 Aide to an exec.
36 Kind of IRA
38 Grade of wine
39 Lengthens in duration
41 Sign in a vacant flat
42 Abu Dhabi leader
43 Bishops' hats
44 Horse operas
45 Terrible
46 Distinct stage
47 Basmati and brown
50 Monk's hood
51 Bushy hairstyle of the '60s
52 Foots the bill
54 Contemptible character
55 Nobel winner Wiesel
56 Bounding gait
58 Mediocre grade

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

R	A	J	A	H	■	C	P	A	S	■	I	T	E	M
A	R	U	B	A	■	R	U	N	T	■	D	A	L	Y
T	I	M	E	R	■	O	M	N	I	■	E	X	I	T
S	A	P	■	L	E	A	P	O	F	F	A	I	T	H
■	■	S	T	O	R	K	■	■	L	O	S	S	E	S
M	O	T	O	W	N	■	P	L	E	A	■	■	■	■
A	L	A	N	■	I	S	E	E	■	M	A	B	E	L
M	E	R	E	■	E	A	R	N	S	■	S	O	M	E
A	S	T	R	O	■	S	T	O	P	■	H	U	I	T
■	■	■	■	P	U	S	H	■	A	G	E	N	T	S
P	O	T	T	E	R	■	■	T	R	E	N	D	■	■
S	P	R	I	N	G	F	E	V	E	R	■	L	A	B
H	E	A	L	■	E	E	L	S	■	A	R	E	N	A
A	R	I	D	■	N	A	M	E	■	L	I	S	T	S
W	A	N	E	■	T	R	O	T	■	D	O	S	E	S

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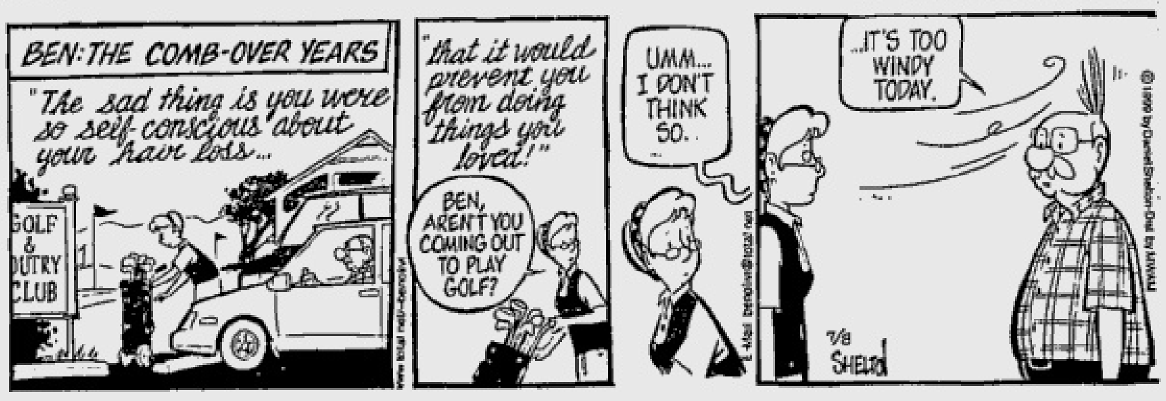
6/26/02

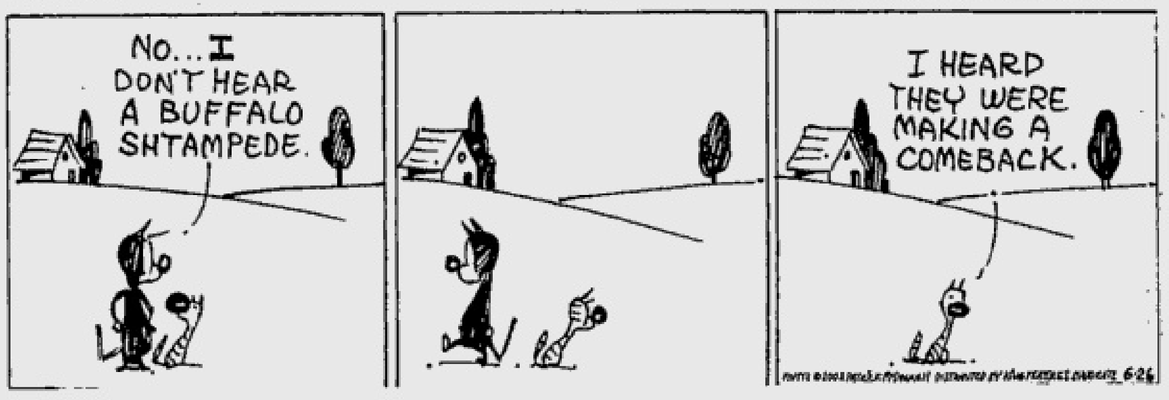
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


BEN: THE COMB-OVER YEARS
"The sad thing is you were so self-conscious about your hair loss...
GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB
"that it would prevent you from doing things you loved!"
BEN, AREN'T YOU COMING OUT TO PLAY GOLF?
UMM... I DON'T THINK SO.
...IT'S TOO WINDY TODAY.
7/8
SHELTON

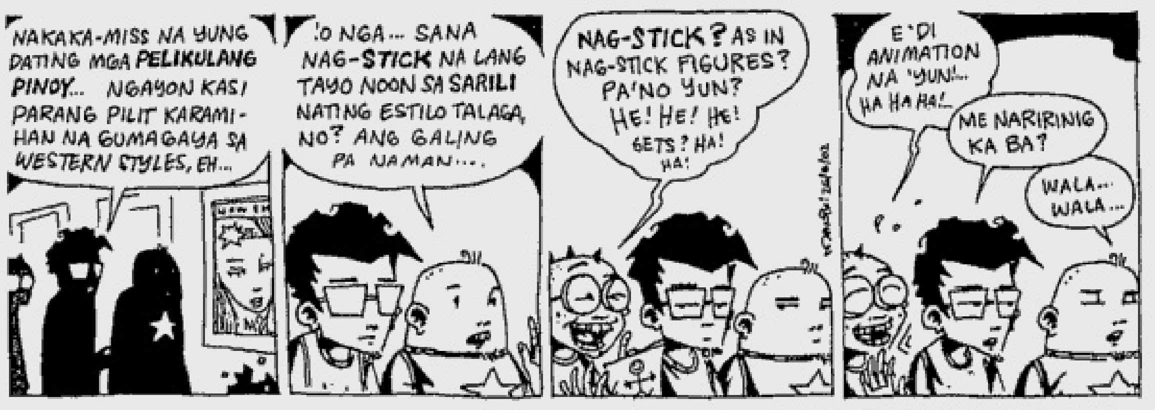
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


NO... I DON'T HEAR A BUFFALO SHTAMPEDE.
I HEARD THEY WERE MAKING A COMEBACK.
6-26

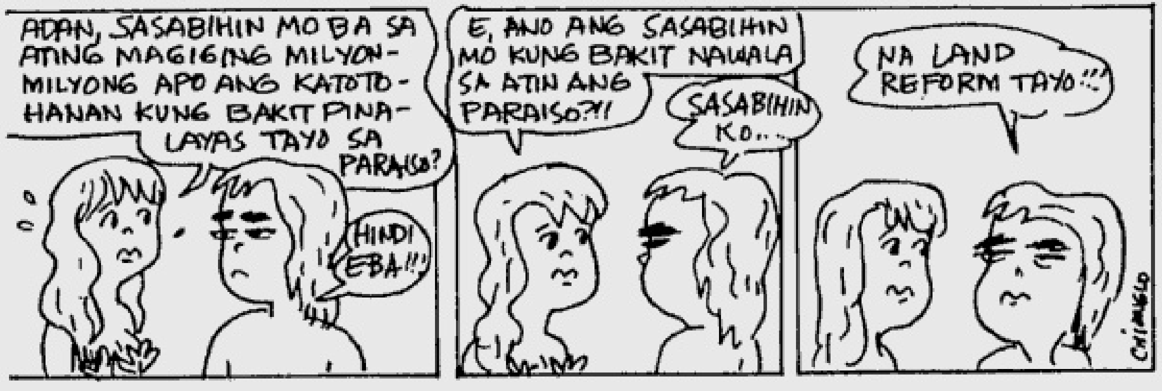
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


NAKAKA-MISS NA YUNG DATING MGA PELIKULANG PINOY... NGAYON KASI PARANG PILIT KARAMIHAN NA GUMAGAYA SA WESTERN STYLES, EH...
'O NGA... SANA NAG-STICK NA LANG TAYO NOON SA SARILI NATING ESTILO TALAGA, NO? ANG GALING PA NAMAN...
NAG-STICK? AS IN NAG-STICK FIGURES? PA'NO YUN? HE! HE! HE! GETS? HA! HA!
E'DI ANIMATION NA 'YUN!... HA HA HA!...
ME NARIRINIG KA BA?
WALA... WALA...

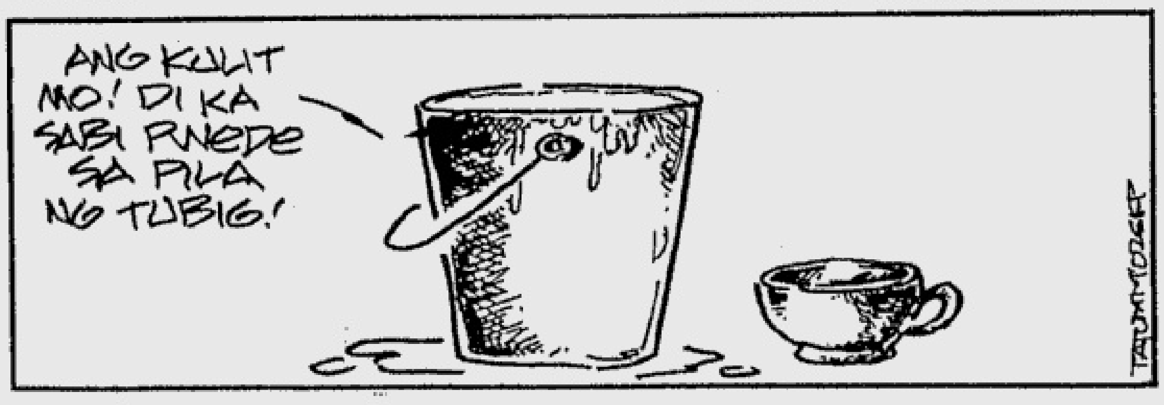
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


ADAN, SASABIHIN MO BA SA ATING MAGIGING MILYON-MILYONG APO ANG KATOTOHANAN KUNG BAKIT PINALAYAS TAYO SA PARAISO?
HINDI EBA!!
E, ANO ANG SASABIHIN MO KUNG BAKIT NAWALA SA ATIN ANG PARAISO?!!
SASABIHIN KO...
NA LAND REFORM TAYO!!
CHIONGLO

TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


ANG KULIT MO! DI KA SABI PWEDE SA PILA NG TUBIG!
TATUMMOZART

SAN MIG gets a taste of Wahijuara.

COVERS get a make-over: The Blue Rats.

Feast of music and peace

THOSE LOTR trading card nerds still manage to play backstage: Zach Lucero and Myrene Academia.

I WANT MY BEER STUBS! Barbie Almalbis and Ricci Gurango

RACK EN ROWL! Slapshock's Lee Nadela and a friend

From page C1

Sidebar also saw Murder of Crows, fronted by drummer Ria, who also did the band's vocals ("It's hard, but they make me do it," she laughed). With a sound that's hard to classify under one genre, Murder of Crows are already getting raves from the underground crowd, thanks to their demo album that they hand out during gigs. Already recording their debut album which they hope will be out by July, Ria expressed hope that next year's Fête will be more open to indie bands such Twisted Halo, Pin-up Girls and Boldstar. "I'm a pro-vocalist drummer."

Flavors and Spices, the rock venue that has been transformed into an unofficial sauna bath (gross, we know), saw newbies such as Happy Meals and Monkeyspank. The latter are recording their demo album, which is being produced by Louie Talan. "The Fête is hot. It's very, very hot," said band member Carlo.

Call for peace

"*Marami akong* wish, actually..." Aia de Leon of Imago said to the packed crowd of Sidebar, where the alternative bands played. "Wish *ko na 'yung mga* farmers *sa* fields *bigyan ng* sunblock. *Teka, seryoso ako! Kasi sila 'yung rason kung bakit may kanin tayo araw araw, 'di ba?* So *sana kahit papaano, hindi ba?*"

This year's theme, "A Call for Peace," had musicians making spiels about peace. Although the message was a cliché, most bands urged world peace.

It was a surprise all these musicians agreed to play for the cause of peace for free. Aside from the complimentary food and honorarium to cover for gas and transportation, the bands willingly jumped on the bandwagon for peace.

As Billy put it, "It's the Fête de la Musique, the whole world is playing music together. We all believe in one thing...and that is a call for peace."

E-mail the author at volcanogirl28@hotmail.com

To get a copy of Murder of Crows' demo, contact (0917) 441-3820.

THIS IS THE END

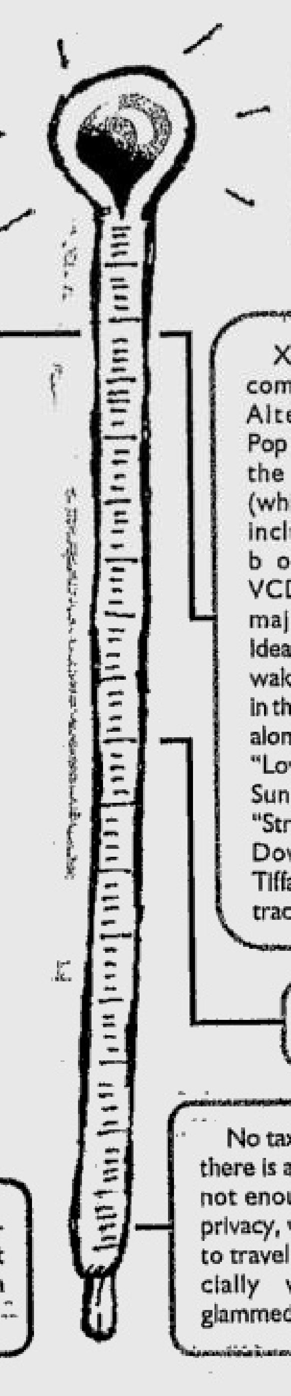
KELVIN of the Itchyworms! sweat it out at Flavors and Spices. Love the shirt.

NITYALILA before going onstage

MURDER of Crows kills 'em at Sidebar.

THE 2BU! THERMOMETER

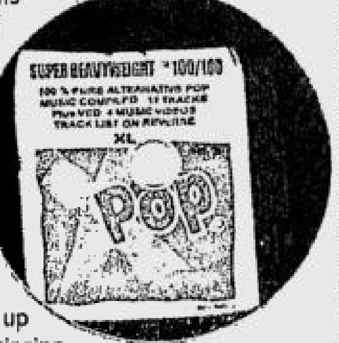
Mercury shoots up with riotous website, plummets with taxi-less Fort



rex navarreto's
MARITESS vs. SUPERFRIENDS
PRODUCTION NOTES AND BIOS
MESSAGE BOARD
WATCH THE CARTOONS

Maritess vs. The Superfriends. If you don't know who Maritess is, you need to head on to www.fractalcow.com/rex now. This Dino Ignacio-Rex Navarrete masterpiece is guaranteed to send you rolling with laughter.

New women writers. Sophie Kinsella, Lisa Jewell, Jane Green, Fiona Walker and Isabel Wolff have been churning out excellent books that have surpassed the Jones' Clones label. They make us proud to be women.


SUPER HEAVYWEIGHT 100/100
100% PURE ALTERNATIVE POP MUSIC COMPILED 17 TRACKS
Plus VCD 4 MUSIC VIDEOS
TRACK LIST ON REVERSE
XL
POP

X-pop. This compilation of Alternative Pop hits from the '90s (which also includes a bonus VCD) is a major find. Ideal for driving, waking yourself up in the morning, singing along while taking a shower, etc., etc. It includes "Lovefool" by The Cardigans, "Walkin' On the Sun" by Smash Mouth, "Stay" by Lisa Loeb, "Strong Enough" by Sheryl Crow, "Follow You Down" by Gin Blossoms and "Breakfast At Tiffany's" by Deep Blue Something. Our favorite track? "Ugly Girl" by Fleming and John.

Preview
LIVES
STYLE
HOMES

Preview—The New Society. This month's issue is an attempt at changing the concept of old society. As editor Pauline Suaco puts it, "There is a new society—where meritocracy replaces aristocracy and with it the old-world notion of society has become passe."

Sabaya is dead? Show us the body.

Cibo's grape shake. Since it's not the season for strawberries, we've had to settle for Cibo's red grape shake. And it's a great sub. The shake is fresh and absolutely yummy.

Ten Noodles. Affordable noodles that just burst with flavor. Go to Glorietta for a palate adventure.

No taxis in The Fort. Yes, there is a bus service but it's not enough. We'd like our privacy, we'd like to be able to travel in comfort – especially when we're all glammed up.

Friday's El Pueblo is closed. Whhhhy?

Blonde is back

Make Over 911

Kinny Salas

IS going blonde back in style? I enjoyed it back then but had to dye it black again because it became passe. One more problem was that I had to bleach every two weeks to cover my roots, which ruined my hair. Is there a particular method so my hair won't be destroyed and my color will last longer? Can you also recommend a new stylist because mine left for Singapore? I want a hairstyle that's full of body. Pamela Anderson and Heather Graham are my fave stars!

CAROLINE

Yes, blonde is definitely back. In fact, I went for it myself. You really should take care because fine hair like ours is most prone to damage and is the hardest to repair. Constant bleaching and blow-drying for the hairstyles you want are the surefire ways to breakage and split ends. You were bleaching every two weeks because you colored your whole head and the contrast in color is so big for it not to be noticeable. Instead of bleaching the whole thing this time, why don't you opt for multiple highlights with thicker chunky streaks of blonde around the face? It may not have the same impact as full single color but retouching will be stretched from six to eight weeks. There are two salons I go to for my coloring jobs, and I retouch every two to three months depending on how much lighter my hair is. This time I went to Propaganda (tel. 893-4098) for a haircut with Gigi Fuertes, and two-step coloring with Randy Langreo under Gigi's choice of colors. My hair was first tinted with golden brown and given pale blonde streaks in front and finer highlights on the back. Everything blended perfectly in a week, and now, my hair is the same color as Jennifer Aniston's. Gigi cut my fine thin hair in long layers, which gave it so much volume without the need to blow-dry. I'm expected to come back in six to eight weeks for touch up. I even have the option of growing it out. To wean yourself of being blonde, just maintain the streaks around your face and let the back grow out. Eventually, you will just have to cover the streaks in front to go darker when you tire of the maintenance. The advantage to having it done this way is that the stylist can make you go as light as possible for your skin tone so it still looks flattering and natural. Randy bleached my brows too. Face it; even if you are fair skinned, your skin needs that pink undertone for the blonde shade of Heather or Pamela. On your part, buy great conditioning products for your hair like Sebastian's Anti snap, Phytologic hair protection spray and L'Oreal's hair serum. It needs all the pampering it can get.

Another salon I trust with the multiple coloring of my hair is Basement (tel. 898-1804). I go to Joseph Tabile for haircut and color analysis, then his brother Jun applies the color. They put some secret ingredient in their dyes so my hair is actually silky soft after coloring. For those who don't like carrying too much cash, Basement accepts credit cards for your convenience.

For any questions or products you want to road-test, write to Make Over 911, PDI Lifestyle or fax at 8974805.

What's the wildest thing you've done in your life?

WEEKS ago, we asked you to tell us about your wildest adventure—in exchange for free wall-climbing sessions at Play Underground.

Here are the winners:

Merlinda Betorin

"The wildest I've done would probably be my going to Cebu alone. I didn't know what was going to happen. Plus it was my first time to ride a plane. I was afraid, excited and I felt like vomiting. It's nothing extreme but it was wild for me."

John Ralph Rios

"When we got lost on our way to the campsite of Mt. Maculot, we had to trail blaze an unknown path. It was wild because it involved a 20-meter, 90-degree climb that had us clinging onto the exposed roots of old trees."

Ruby Palma

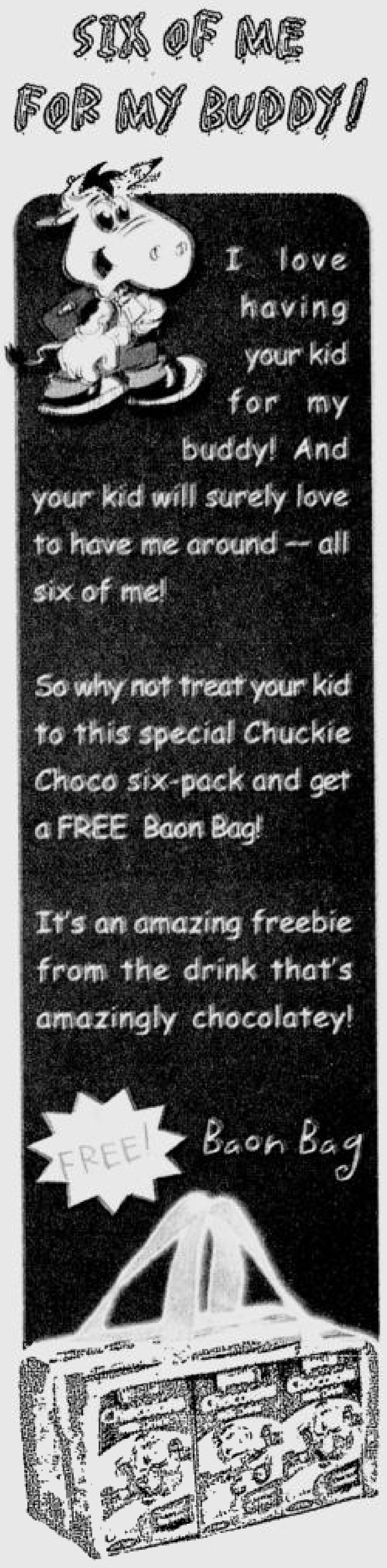
"During a trip to Sagada, our boss dared us to jump off the ledge of the rock in Bomod-ok Falls. The rock is 30 feet above the water and was difficult to climb since it was covered with moss and algae. The water was 6 feet deep so it was dangerous. I jumped, along with other officemates and our boss. We were so thrilled that we jumped twice."

Martha Sasing

"I spent the sembreak of our senior year in college traveling to Baguio, Sagada and Banawe with only P800 in our pockets and P200 worth of cup noodles, canned goods and candies in our bags. The whole spirit of this crazy trip, however, was just to set foot on half of the Cordillera Region for as little cost as possible."

Jojo Roxas

"Went up and down Mt. Banahaw barefooted!"

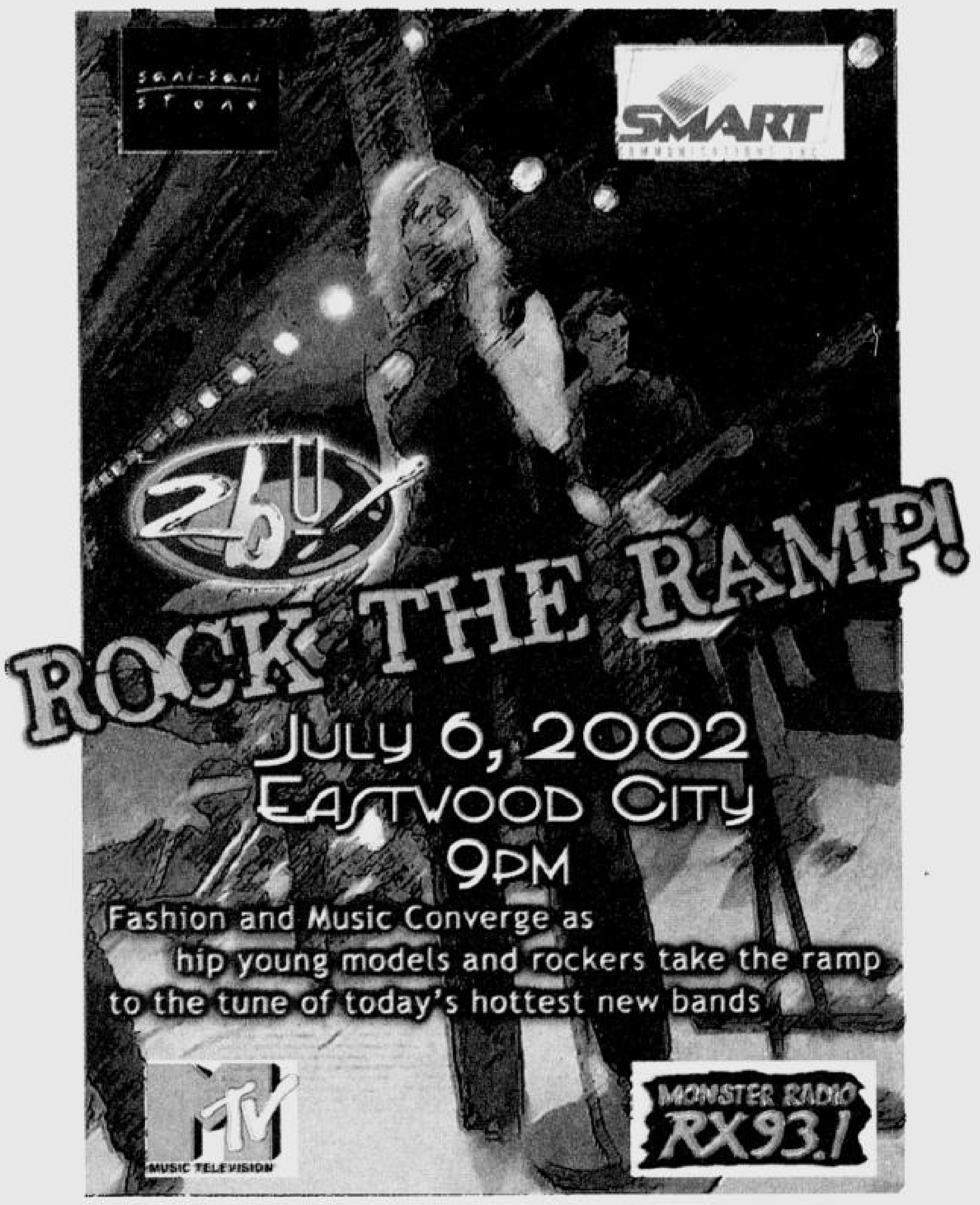

SIX OF ME FOR MY BUDDY!

I love having your kid for my buddy! And your kid will surely love to have me around — all six of me!

So why not treat your kid to this special Chuckie Choco six-pack and get a FREE Baon Bag!

It's an amazing freebie from the drink that's amazingly chocolatey!

FREE!
Baon Bag



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ROCK THE RAMP!

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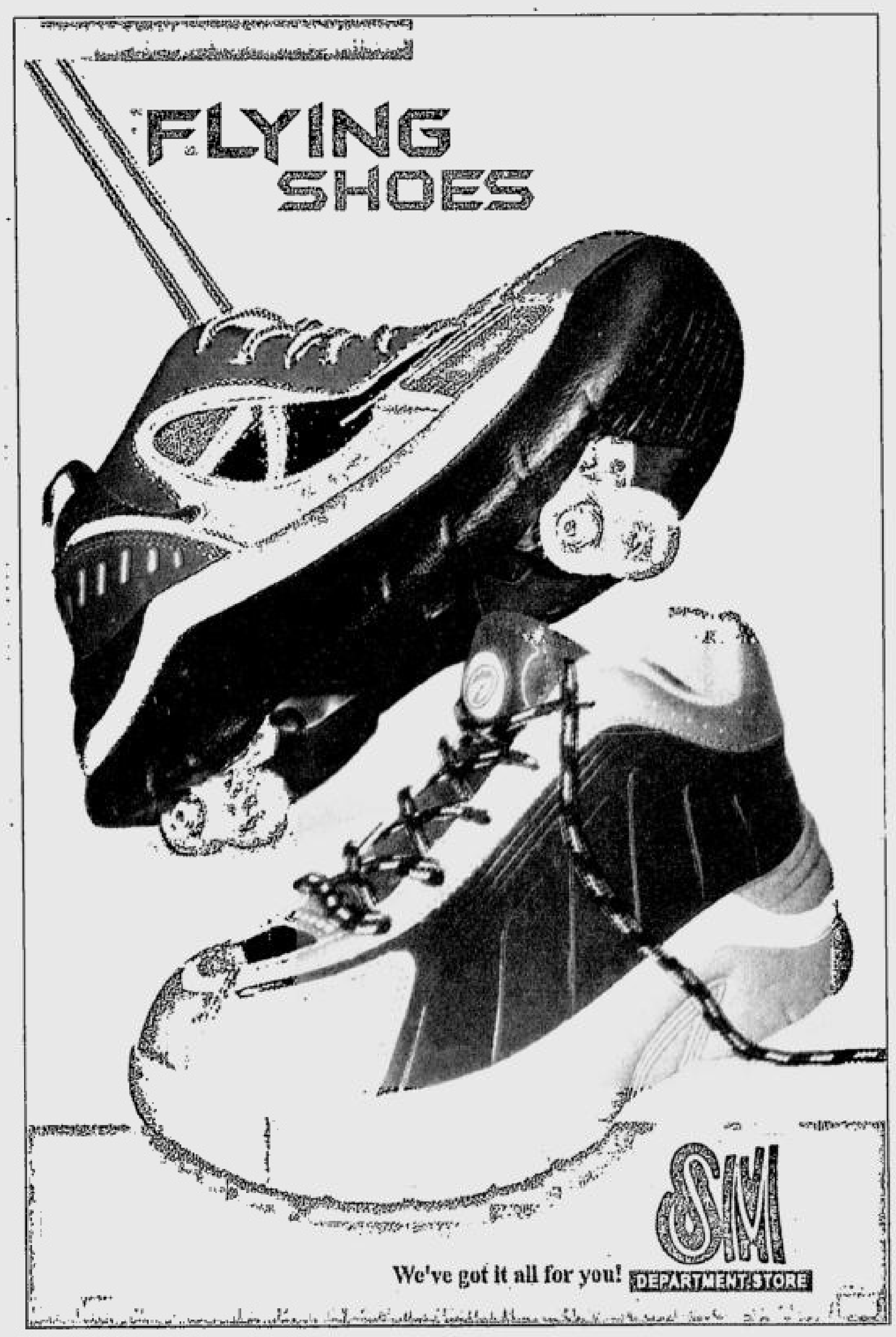
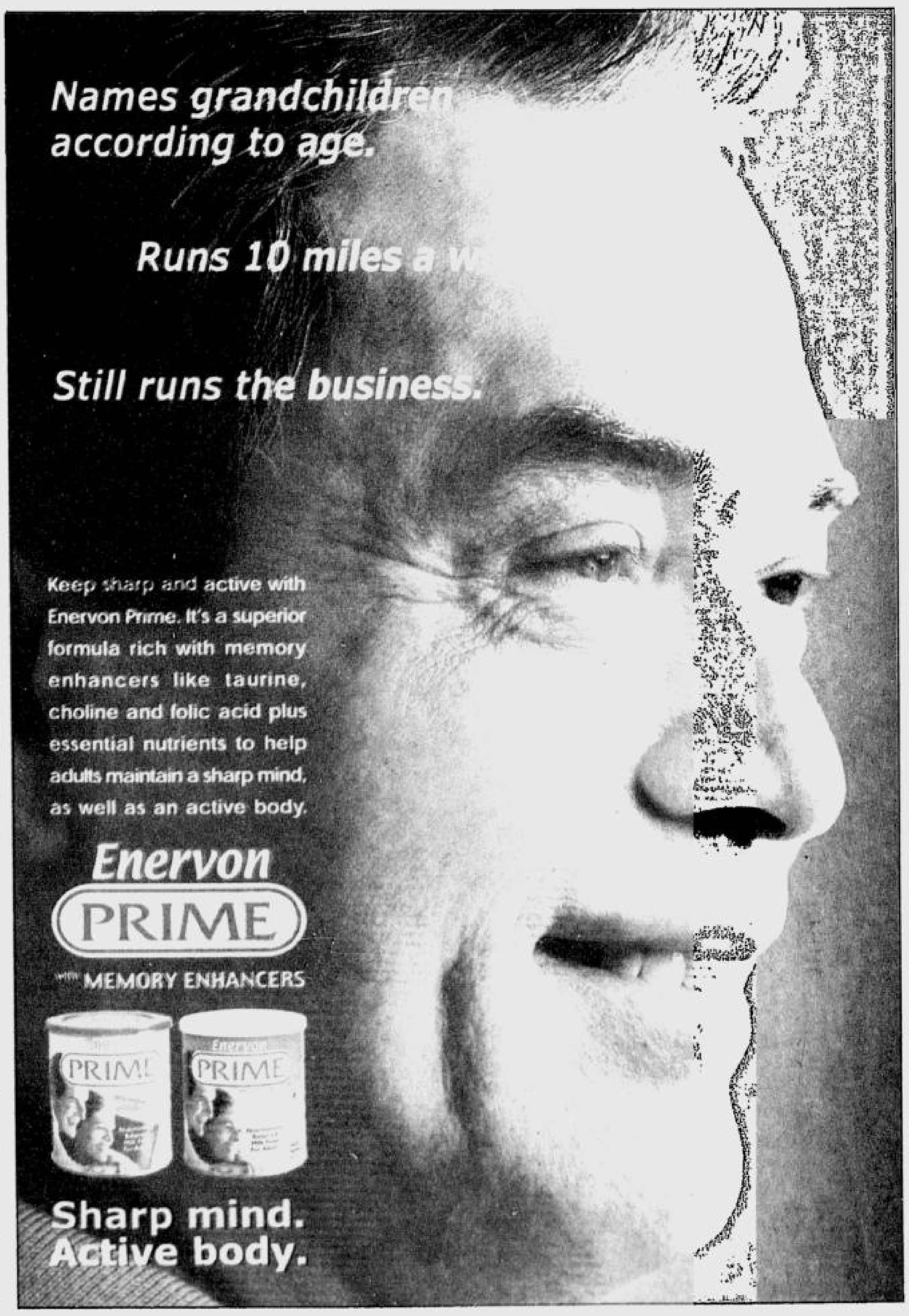
Fashion and Music Converge as hip young models and rockers take the ramp to the tune of today's hottest new bands

MTV MUSIC TELEVISION
MONSTER RADIO RX93.1



FLYING SHOES

We've got it all for you! SM DEPARTMENT STORE



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